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WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
THE COMMON CAUSE
OF HUMANITY.

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CONTENTS

Notes and Comments

In Parliament

Political Notes. The Scottish Home Rule Bill

The N. U. W. S. S. and a Step towards the Recognition of the Citizenship of Women

International Council of Women Workers in Rome

"Wind and Tide." By E. Rentoul Esler

"Consented." By Carol Ring

Correspondence

This Merry Month

Empire Day and the Daughters of Empire

By-Election News

What our E. F. F. Policy has Achieved

Notes from Headquarters

News from the Societies

"The time of life is short:
To spend that shortness basely were too long."

ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES (NUMBER OF SOCIETIES IN THE UNION 483).

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is a great association of men and women banded together for the single purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. It was founded in 1867, and now numbers over 52,000 annually-subscribing members, organized into 483 Societies, under the presidentship of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. The colours of the Union are SCARLET, WHITE, and GREEN. Among its members are people of all parties, and people of none. The cause that unites them is the cause of Women's Suffrage, and they work for victory by peaceful methods only. They utterly repudiate methods of violence and rely on political pressure and the education of public opinion. WILL YOU JOIN? (Membership form on p. 155.)

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Notes and Comments.

A Womanly Woman.

The Central News Agency reports, in connection with the murder of the French railway signalman Poullain, at his box near San Denys on May 14th, that his wife took his place within a few minutes of his being shot. "Stricken with grief, and only half clothed, her one thought was of the possible danger on the line, and from a quarter past three until six o'clock she manipulated the levers, enabling traffic to proceed as usual, and entering the details up in the train book with precise care."

"We do not require public virtue in our women." wrote Mr. Harold Owen, in that standard Anti-suffrage text-book, "Woman Adrift." The French think differently, for it is hoped to confer upon Madame Poullain the Railway Servants' Medal of Honour. We also offer our respectful homage to Madame Poullain. It is, perhaps, more than a mere coincidence that she belongs to a nation where half a million women have just declared for the enfranchisement of their sex.

The N.U.W.S.S. and Subordinate Parliaments.

We print in full a statement recently sent to the Press, to members of both Front Benches, and to the most prominent people in the Federal Movement inside and outside Parliament by the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S., on the subject of Federalism, as the statement has been much garbled and truncated by certain of the papers which have published it. It should not be necessary to make clear that the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. has in no way committed itself to any opinion on the subject of Federalism as such, but has merely endeavoured to point out the nature of the opportunity that any such scheme, if adopted, would afford to Suffragists. Neither does the Union propose to abate for one instant its insistent demand for a Government measure to grant without delay votes for women for the Imperial Parliament. The alleged difficulties of politicians who profess to believe that the Women's Suffrage question has reached an *impasse*, are not the concern of the Union, which is well aware that such differences as divide the party now in power on the subject can be composed as soon as the will to compose them is present.

Mrs. Fawcett Declines to Strike the Flag.

We are glad to see from Mrs. Humphry Ward's letter to *The Times* of May 15th, that she supports the granting of the vote to women for subordinate parliaments, such as would be created were such Bills as the Scottish or Welsh "Home Rule" Bills to pass into law, and not the less though legislative power would be in their hands. Her conception of a "settlement by consent," which would involve "an assurance from the Suffragist party that the line of demarcation between such local assemblies as might arise under Federalism and the Central Imperial Parliament would be loyally accepted and observed," does not, however commend itself to Suffragists. We print elsewhere Mrs. Fawcett's spirited reply to Mrs. Ward, declining thus to "strike our flag."

Ipswich Must Not Have Masterman.

The N.U.W.S.S is opposing the return of Mr. Masterman for Ipswich, because Mr. Masterman's vote has only been given for Woman's Suffrage when such support was not likely to lead to any practical result. For the rest, the Union leaves the matter open, neither of the other candidates is an Anti-suffragist. The time and the manner of Mr. Ganzoni's support has yet to appear. Mr. Scurr is a sincere Suffragist, but the Union does not accord to him its official recognition because he permits upon his platform the advocacy of methods which the Union condemns. The return of Mr. Masterman can only cause grief to Liberals who desire to see their party true to its principles.

Leaders Who Do Not Lead.

Speaking at the London Society's reception last week, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Joint Hon. Secretary of the Men's Liberal Suffrage Society gave facts of promise regarding the younger school of thought in the Liberal Party on the subject of Woman's Suffrage. He estimated that, of the younger Ministers, some seventeen favour that cause, as compared with three or four opposed, while the percentage within the League of Young Liberals he gives as high as 80 per cent. Though Mr. Mitchell only vouches for these figures as approximately correct, they are sufficient to demonstrate the amazing folly of those so-called Liberal Leaders who peer ever into the future, crying "the time is not yet." May we commend to them a story, "The Madonna of the Future," which tells of an artist who collected materials and selected models, and prepared to paint a wonderful picture, and the years wore on, and always his preparations became more elaborate; but with the declining vigour of old age, the power to paint departed for ever.

What *is* Woman's Place in the Home?

In the *London County Council Gazette*, we read:—

"Section 122 of the Children Act, 1908, provides that before a child is bathed compulsorily a notice must be issued calling the attention of the parents to the child's unsatisfactory state, and allowing them twenty-four hours in which to remedy this condition. It is necessary that this statutory notice be served personally on the responsible parent, and considerable difficulty is frequently experienced by the attendance officers before the father is found at home. The result is that the progress of the scheme is delayed to some extent, but it would seem that the difficulty is quite unavoidable."

It has been said that every woman is a queen in her own home. Who performs the royal duty of bathing the child, the queen or her consort, "the responsible parent"? Well, well—if the difficulty is quite unavoidable, it cannot be avoided.

People's Station in Life.

The bad pay and poor prospects of professional women are largely the result of their exclusion from the ordinary political rights and enjoyments of citizenship. There has recently been some discussion in regard to the ample pensions drawn by two public men, one lately deceased. A factor in this case was, what is "suitable to a person's station in life"? This is a factor in the woman's case also. Men are her judges, without appeal, and they have too often judged that, unless she will consent to be the possession of some man, she shall be the world's scavenger and drudge. Nurses for Fever Isolation Hospitals have run short, and, groping half blindly for the cause, it has been borne in on those responsible for these institutions that the offer of a decent wage and decent conditions may avert a deadlock. In the meanwhile, as is pointed out in a volume issued by the Women's Fabian Group, women's professional work, "responsible, highly-skilled, exhausting," is being paid at a rate per hour measurable only in pence, and her own domestic life is not her own, for if she marries, the public bodies of this free country demand in nearly every case her retirement.

The W.S.P.U. Deputation to the King.

Mr. Laurence Housman writes to *The Manchester Guardian* of May 19th stating that in his opinion the W.S.P.U. Deputation is a just assertion of the right of personal petition to the King possessed by women, and the Executive Committee of the Men's League for Woman's Suffrage have passed a resolution in the same sense. We reserve our judgment in regard to the circumstances of the W.S.P.U. Deputation which is impending as we go to press, as we have not all the facts in connection with it before us, but we desire to place on record once again our profound regret that militant Suffragists by resorting to arson and kindred acts of violence alienate many lovers of liberty and of constitutional right. We endorse the wish expressed by the Men's League that the authorities may be found to have refrained themselves from acts of violence, and we earnestly hope that any constitutional rights which are possessed by women may not have been imperilled by prejudice or passion on either side.

How Mr. Wason is to be Won.

We women are most unfortunate. There used to be a topical song with the refrain, "He did, and he didn't know why!" But our sad case is worse. "We *do*, and we don't know *what!*" Mr. Wason told the House of Commons in the debate on the Scotch Bill that he "cannot support women so long as they pursue their present course." Naturally, therefore, women would desire at once to abandon their present course, but here the difficulty comes in. Between one and two hundred thousand women support the Liberal Party by means of the Women's Liberal Federation. Now, is it these women who annoy Mr. Wason, or is it not? Then a large number have signed the British Covenant, we suspect, but we cannot be certain, that this kind of thing upsets the Hon. member for Clackmannan and Kinross. Some thousands are greatly influenced by Mrs. Pankhurst; others, again, think highly of Mrs. Humphry Ward, or even of Mrs. Henry Fawcett. Millions do not stay in the home, but go out to work for wages; other millions bide at home, and nurse the baby. But, enough!—Light dawns! Let all women stop doing anything till the vote is won, and then we may be quite sure of having Mr. Wason with us.

In Parliament.

Monday, May 11th.

Married Women's Income.

In the debate on the Budget several speakers pointed out that the Income-tax, as at present levied, presses very hardly on married women.

Mr. J. M. Henderson (Durham, Barnard Castle, Lab.) said :—

"It is a very hard thing indeed that a woman should be treated under the Married Women's Property Act as an independent unit, but the moment she is married we get back to the old position of 1842 and the Income-Tax Act—of her property belonging to her husband, and of their both being one. The moment that either of them dies they become two again, and their estates are two for the purposes of taxation. That cannot be justified. Some time ago, when the married women went in a deputation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, they seemed to a large extent to prevail upon him, their case being absolutely unanswerable. I cannot see why the Treasury should insist and persist in treating the joint incomes of two married people as one. Take the simple instance of a girl who has a private income of £150. Being entitled to a rebate, she pays nothing on it. She marries a man who has £700 a year, so that the joint income is £850, but she gets nothing. We had the very troublesome case of Dr. Bruce, whose husband was put in prison for not paying. The only answer the Chancellor of the Exchequer gave to-night was that if he adopted the policy of treating a married woman's income as a separate entity from that of her husband, it would cost £1,500,000."

Tuesday, May 12th.

Milk and Dairies Bill.

The President of the Local Government Board (Mr. Herbert Samuel) in introducing a Bill "to make better provision with respect to the sale of milk and the regulation of dairies," pointed out that expert authorities have reported that tuberculosis is undoubtedly spread, particularly amongst children, by the consumption of tuberculous milk. Great care, he said, was taken to protect our water supply, but the safeguarding of our milk supply, which was a matter of equal importance, had been too little regarded. At present it was left to local authorities to protect their population from contaminated milk. About one hundred authorities—mostly urban—had made regulations, with the result that—

"From a particular district the farmers are accustomed to send their milk to half-a-dozen different towns and all these different towns are enabled to send inspectors down to the agricultural district, each to conduct an independent examination as to the methods in which the milk is produced and distributed, and each of these inspectors imposes upon the farmer a different standard."

The Bill was intended to prevent this overlapping, with its consequent irritation to the farmer, and to provide single inspection, according to regulations drawn up by the Local Government Board with the concurrence of the Board of Agriculture. Efforts would be made to secure the co-operation of the farmers and of the milk-selling industry.

Wednesday, May 13th.

British Nationality and Status of Aliens Bill.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. Harcourt) explained that the Bill of which he was now moving the Second Reading was an agreed Bill between the British Government and all the Dominions. It would put a stop to "an absurd and intolerable situation" in relation to naturalisation which has been tolerated too long :—

"British naturalisation has been valid throughout the Dominions, indeed throughout the world, but Dominion naturalisation has only been valid in that Dominion in which it happens to be granted. An alien naturalised in Australia became an alien again the moment he crossed to New Zealand. A man who had become a British subject in Cape Colony before the Union, found himself a foreigner and alien when he went to the Transvaal, even after its annexation. An American who has settled and got himself naturalised in Canada was Canadian if he went back to America, but American if he came to Europe; he was a Britisher nowhere. I am happy to say that this Bill cures all that."

Mr. Glyn Jones (Stepney, L.) dealt with the equally "absurd and intolerable" position of women under our Naturalisation Acts, urging the alteration of Clause 11 :

"'A woman who, having been a British subject, has by or in consequence of her marriage become an alien, shall not, by reason only of the death of her husband, or the dissolution of her marriage, cease to be an alien.'

"That means that if a woman born in this country, say, twenty-five years ago, marries an alien she becomes an alien. A year afterwards she becomes a widow and she is still an alien. The fact that she was married to an alien for one year constitutes that woman an alien for the rest of her life. . . I believe there is some suggestion that it has to do with the passing of property abroad, but my concern is for the very many poor women in Stepney who are not affected by property abroad, but are much more affected by the Insurance Act, and my suggestion is that it should be possible in Committee, in the case of a woman who has simply become an alien because of her marriage to an alien, on her becoming a widow, to do what the Bill allows a child to do—

"'Any child who has so ceased to be a British subject may, within one year after attaining his majority, make a declaration that he wishes to resume British nationality, and shall thereupon again become a British subject.'"

Mr. Dickinson (N. St. Pancras, Lib.) went further, and claimed that a woman should be entitled to choose which nation she belongs to, whether she is married or not :—

"I cannot believe that the law affecting the nationality of a married woman can continue to exist for many more years as it stands, and, in view of the general growth of opinion as regards the legal condition of women, it will be a very disastrous thing if we find the door shut, as I believe it will be if the Bill passes, to amendments on this particular branch of the question. I have never seen any reason why a woman should be forced against her will to become a foreigner because she marries a foreigner."

Mr. Dickinson expressed a hope that when the matter was dealt with in Committee an amendment would be accepted.

Mr. T. E. Harvey (W. Leeds, Lib.) associated himself with Mr. Dickinson in regard to the clauses dealing with the status of married women, saying :—

"I think those who know the conditions of East London—and I think the same applies to some extent in seaport towns—know that women marry aliens without being aware that they are aliens at all. It sometimes happens that aliens are on the register as electors, and the wife of an alien has no idea when marrying that she is losing her British nationality. That is a very great injustice, not deliberately inflicted, I am sure, but arising out of the exsting law. I think we should not allow the existing law to be re-enacted without modification."

Mr. Booth (Pontefract, L.) expressed himself in favour of "downright equality" :—

"Suppose the case of two people in the City of London who are of independent means and one is a British woman who marries an alien. She is treated as of no account whatever, and immediately she becomes an alien, although she may be on the register and able to vote for local purposes. She loses her vote, and if her husband dies, she cannot get back on to the register, although she is a ratepayer. Those who can conceive and defend an idea of that kind are hopelessly behind the times, and they are voicing the conditions of an Eastern harem. I am amazed that anyone should have the cool audacity to put such clauses in the Bill. It is perpetuating the idea that woman is the slave and the chattel of a man as soon as she is married to him. I cannot think that, with the great ability and well-known tact of my right hon. friend, it will be beyond his power to make a vast improvement in the Bill."

The Bill (which has already been passed by the House of Lords) was read a second time and committed to a Standing Committee.

Thursday, May 14th.

Penalising Marriage.

Mr. Cassel (W. St. Pancras, U.), during the Report on Ways and Means, urged that the Income-tax, as it affects husband and wife, specially penalises marriage, the way it worked out being "absolutely absurd" :—

"It is unjust to the husband and unjust to the wife, and it penalises the husband. You make the husband responsible for paying Income-tax on his wife's income, and you give him no power to recover it from her. There was even a case not long ago when a man was sent to prison because he either would not or could not pay the Income-tax on his wife's income. He had a comparatively small revenue himself, but the Commissioners of Inland Revenue put him in prison because he did not pay the tax on his wife's income."

The present method was equally unfair to the wife, because if she is entitled to an abatement, she cannot claim it :—

"The claim must be made by the husband, and he can make a profit by claiming an abatement in respect of the tax on the wife's income. There is no means by which she can recover the amount of the abatement from her husband. I could give a case where the husband made a profit of 12s. 6d. in that way. It is a small amount, but the matter to which I am referring affects a great many cases. (Laughter.) The right hon. gentleman laughs, but this affects every case where the wife has got income from an investment and is entitled to an abatement. She cannot claim the abatement, and, if her husband claims it, she cannot recover it from him if he does not choose to pay it to her. That is the absurd position in which the law stands."

To add the incomes of husband and wife together and treat them as one was, Mr. Cassell maintained, grossly unfair :—

"I submit to the right hon. gentleman that married people are entitled to some exemption as married people, because their requirements and expenditure must be greater. Suppose you take two people marrying with £200 each. I say that they have greater requirements than one person would have with the same amount of income. They contribute more in indirect taxation on such articles, for example, as tea and sugar. They also contribute more to local taxation in the way of rates, because they require more accommodation. I think the present state of the law is absolutely indefensible, unjust, and unreasonable, and I shall certainly, when the Finance Bill comes before the House later, press some amendments upon the right hon. gentleman."

Mr. Sanderson (Westmorland, Appleby, U.) also took up the cudgels for the married, urging that "a married man with a family ought not to have to pay as much as a bachelor."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that even under the old tax it would have lost the Exchequer £1,500,000 if the incomes of married people had been reckoned separately for purposes of taxation. He thought "the question was the income which was available for the purpose of running the

householder," but made no attempt to answer Mr. Cassel's contention that a married couple have greater requirements than a single person with the same income. Nor did he notice the suggestion that bachelors—and presumably well-to-do spinsters—were the people who might fairly be expected to make up the deficiency. Mr. Lloyd George did, however, promise to redress one grievance of married women in connection with Income-tax :—

"What I can see my way to do is what I suggested last year. I agree that it is humiliating that a wife should be treated as a perfect cypher and of no account, and that the whole of the account should pass in the name of the husband, all returns having to be made by him, although in some cases it is the wife who is earning the most of the money. This point was very well put before me by a deputation which waited on me last year, and I have promised, to the best of my ability, to put that matter right. I think, however, that the Revenue Bill is the place to do it."

Captain Clive (Herefordshire, Ross, U.) hoped that Mr. Cassel would not rest satisfied with the Chancellor of the Exchequer's reply as regards the grievance of married people.

"I cannot understand how the Chancellor of the Exchequer is able to dismiss that grievance with so little sympathy. His chief argument seemed to be that though there was some justification for the grievance, it would cost £1,500,000, and he asked who is to pay that. . . . I do not know why, if the grievance is admitted, it should not be removed simply because it is the bachelors and those who are not married who would have to pay a little more. It is a distinct grievance that the two incomes should be reckoned as one."

From the Liberal benches also came a protest. Mr. Walter Rea (Scarborough, L.), expressing regret that Mr. Lloyd George had not seen his way to make at least some concession in regard to the joint incomes of husband and wife :—

"It is, I believe, not only in the interests of morality, but in the interests of the race itself, that people should be encouraged to marry young and to produce their families at an early age, when they have not a large income, rather than wait till later, when they will not produce children who will be as able to carry on the burden of the race, and that is distinctly checked when two people with small incomes, both entitled to abatements, find that if they marry and pool their incomes, they are not entitled to relief. It is just at the time when they marry and incur extra expense that they should not be penalised by the State, but should, if possible, be helped."

Mr. Timothy Davies (Louth, L.) said that he would have liked to see the Chancellor of the Exchequer put an extra tax on bachelors, and Mr. G. Locker-Lampson (Salisbury, U.) suggested that when a man provides for the future of his wife and family by insuring his life, the amount paid as premium should be deducted for the purpose of calculating ordinary Income-tax in the same way as allowance is made up to one-sixth of the total income in calculating super-tax.

Monday, May 18th.

Enfranchisement of Women for Scottish Legislature.

The discussion on the enfranchisement of women under the "Government of Scotland Bill" is dealt with under our "Political Notes."

Monday, May 18th.

Debate on the Third Reading of the Established Church (Wales) Bill.

Tuesday, May 19th.

The Third Reading of the Welsh Church Bill was carried by a majority of 77—328 members voting for the Bill and 251 against.

The Standing Committee which has been considering the Importation of Plumage Bill ordered this measure to be reported to the House.

Political Notes.

Scottish Home Rule Bill.

The Government of Scotland Bill came up for Second Reading in the Commons on May 15th, and it possessed a special interest for Suffragists owing to it having been decided at a recent meeting of Scottish Liberal Members to insert into it a clause enfranchising women on the terms of the "Dickinson Bill." On a point of order, Mr. Booth (Pontefract, Lib.) asked the Speaker whether his attention had been drawn to the statements of the friends of the Bill that the inclusion or deletion of the above clause was a Committee point, and whether he would say if an alteration affecting nearly half the electors qualified by the Bill would not make it a different measure. The Speaker replied that the deletion would alter the general character of the Bill, but that the question asked was somewhat hypothetical. The Second Reading was moved by Mr. Macpherson (Ross and Cromarty, L.), and seconded by Mr. W. Young (Perthshire, E., L.), who so passionately attacked the women's clause that Mr. Hogge (Edinburgh, E., L.) inquired : "On a point of order, do we understand that the hon. member is seconding this Bill?" To which the Speaker replied : "He is seconding the Bill, but not the whole Bill." (Loud laughter.) Mr. Mackinder (Camlachie, C.), in moving the rejection, exhibited hostility to the women's clause, and, in reference to those who had inserted it, declared : "They so little trust free government that they wish now, once and for all, to settle, as far as they can, all the details (*sic*) in every part of the country."

Mr. Watson (Lanark, S., C.), in seconding the rejection, did not definitely commit himself to any opinion on the principle of Women's Franchise for National Parliaments, but Mr. E. Wason (Clackmannan and Kinross, L.) announced, while endorsing the Bill in parts, that he used to support Women's Suffrage, but had given it up, "so long as women (*sic*) continue to pursue their present course."

An important contribution was made to the debate from the Suffrage point of view by Lord Tullibardine (Perthshire, W., C.), who, towards the end of a much-interrupted speech, made an important admission to the effect that, while he was a strong Anti-suffragist with regard to the Imperial Parliament, he was "not prepared to say anything against Woman Suffrage for a local Parliament. That is about the only part of the Bill which I might be in favour of."

Mr. Clyde (Edinburgh, W., C.), gave an implied adherence to the principle of Women's Suffrage embodied in the Bill, which was to be expected from one who supports it for the Imperial Parliament.

Other speakers were Mr. J. D. Millar and Mr. Holmes.

Mr. Balfour, referring to the curious method of the seconder in attacking part of the Bill he was seconding, said : "That is a very odd way of defending a Bill. Speaking for myself, I should have thought that many of those who object to the extension of the Suffrage to women for the Imperial Parliament—of which, I need not say, I am not one—would have welcomed this extension in respect of an assembly, which, truly or untruly, has been described as one concerned merely with local administration. I am not going to comment on that question. I am very glad that that provision is put into the Bill, although, as I do not think the Bill is one which either can or will receive, in anything like its present state, the assent of the House, I do not know that it is more than a general tribute paid by Hon. Members opposite to an important cause."—(*Times*, May 16th).

The Secretary for Scotland (Mr. McKinnon Wood) said in reply :—

"Upon one point I will venture to express entire agreement with the right hon. gentleman, although in this matter I can no more speak for my colleagues on this bench than he can for those with whom he acts; but I share his hope that the question of the admission of women to the vote in regard to subordinate legislatures might have been separated by opponents of Woman Suffrage from the larger question of their vote for the Imperial Parliament. I would point out to those who have a very strong feeling in the matter, that, after all, this question must come before the whole House."

While Sir G. Younger (Ayr Burghs, C.) was speaking in opposition, Mr. Macpherson twice moved that the question be now put, but the Speaker not acceding, Sir G. Younger continued, and the House rose a few minutes after five, the Bill having been "talked out."

THE N.U.W.S.S. AND A STEP TOWARDS RECOGNITION OF THE CITIZENSHIP OF WOMEN.

The statement given below has been sent by the Executive Committee of the N.U.W.S.S. to Members of both Front Benches, and to other political leaders, together with the accompanying covering letter, from the Hon. Parliamentary Secretary of the Unian.

Dear Sir,—May I venture to call your attention to the enclosed statement which the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies is issuing to the Press.

It seems to us that the inclusion of women as electors in the Scottish and Welsh Home Rule Bills, and the fact that many prominent Anti-suffragists welcome that step as cordially as we do, offers the possibility of a peaceful solution of a large part of the Women's Suffrage controversy.

We have no desire to minimise the fundamental cleavage which exists between the Suffragist and Anti-suffragist points of view with regard to the Imperial franchise. It serves no good purpose to cry peace where no peace is. But at the same time, it does seem to us desirable to make the most of genuine points of agreement, where such exist, between ourselves and our opponents. And it appears that a very large tract of common ground does exist, in which we might act in co-operation instead of in opposition, if Suffragists and Anti-suffragists alike accept the

principle that women should be admitted as electors for national domestic legislatures.

The fact that Suffragists and Anti-suffragists combined to achieve that which they both desire would not necessarily involve either party in any compromise or sacrifice of principle with regard to the further step—the admission of women to the Imperial franchise—about which they differ.

At this time, when politicians of all parties are endeavouring to find some settlement by consent of the Irish question, we venture to ask your earnest consideration for the possibility of combining with such a settlement, the partial solution, at any rate, of the Women's Suffrage question—a question which, if left unsolved, may well become as great an embarrassment to politicians in the future as the Irish question has been in the past.—Yours faithfully,

Catherine E. Marshall,
Hon. Parliamentary Secretary.

Women's Suffrage and Federal Devolution.

The Executive Committee of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies have followed with extreme interest the rapid development of opinion inside and outside Parliament in favour of a Federal solution of the Irish question ; for it appears to them not improbable that Federalism, with separate Parliaments for each section of the United Kingdom, and one Imperial Parliament for them all, might bring about, not merely its main, immediate object, Home Rule by consent (on which we express no opinion), but also, in part at least, Women's Suffrage by consent.

The Committee are aware that much of the opposition to Women's Suffrage has proceeded from those who believe that it would be disastrous to the Empire to entrust women with votes which would influence Imperial affairs. Needless to say, the N.U.W.S.S. do not share this view ; they stand for the vote for women on the same terms on which it is, or may be, granted to men. For they believe that the political influence of women would strengthen, not weaken the British Empire, which as at present fathered but not mothered. Women's Suffrage has brought with it in every country which has adopted it, additional care for child life and for the race ; and Imperial interests are best guaranteed by those legislative measures and social institutions which make for the production of the greatest number of healthy, happy, wholesome citizens ; in other words, an Imperial race worthy of the name.

Still, while putting this on record, they cannot fail to recognise that the more important and influential Anti-suffragists, while proclaiming their hostility to Women's Suffrage in Imperial affairs, almost as constantly assert their cordial support of it in local government and for local Parliaments.

Already many noted Anti-suffragists have assented in theory to the principle that women should vote in elections for local Parliaments. We may cite in this connection the fact :—

(1) That Women's Suffrage formed part of Mr. Birrell's Irish Councils Bill of 1907, which must, of course, have received the approval of the present Prime Minister and many other Anti-suffragist members of the existing Cabinet.

(2) That Women's Suffrage forms part of the draft constitution drawn up by the Ulster Unionist Council in preparation for the possibility of their forming a Provisional Government in the North-Eastern counties of Ireland, and must therefore have been agreed to by many noted Unionist Anti-suffragists.

(3) The Welsh Home Rule Bill, which was introduced by Mr. E. T. John in the House of Commons on March 11th, and the Scottish Home Rule Bill, which is down for Second Reading to-morrow (May 15th), both include women as electors for the proposed Welsh and Scottish Parliaments.

This accumulation of evidence of the general acceptance of the principle of Women's Suffrage for the local Parliaments which may probably be created in the near future, leads the Committee to anticipate with some confidence that Federalism may provide a way out of the existing *impasse* on the Women's Suffrage question.

If this should be the case, it would be welcomed by the N.U.W.S.S. as a substantial step in the direction of the public recognition of the citizenship of women.

Millicent Garrett Fawcett, President.
Helena Auerbach, Hon. Treasurer.
K. D. Courtney, Hon. Secretary.
Catherine E. Marshall, Hon. Parliamentary Secretary.

MRS. FAWCETT REPLIES TO MRS. HUMPHRY WARD.

We give below Mrs. Fawcett's reply to a letter from Mrs. Humphry Ward, which appeared in the *Times* of May 5th :—

To the Editor of the "Times."

"Sir,—I welcome with cordial satisfaction that part of the letter of Mrs. Humphry Ward in your issue of May 15th which indicates that she personally is in favour of women having equal political rights with men in those local Parliaments of the future which will be set up if a solution of the Home Rule problem is found in the direction of Federalism. This indicates that Home Rule by consent would also probably be accompanied, in part at least, by Women's Suffrage by consent.

"But I cannot in any way sanction the bargain which Mrs. Humphry Ward seems to suggest in the last paragraph of her letter—namely, that we who stand for 'votes for women on the same terms are they are or may be granted to men'—should strike our flag and proclaim ourselves satisfied by the prospective complete exclusion of the influence of women from the electorate of the Central Imperial Parliament.

"We may all take it for granted that Mrs. Humphry Ward, as an honourable woman of political experience, supports Women's Suffrage for the proposed local Parliaments because she is convinced that it would act here as it has acted in the United States, New Zealand, Australia, and elsewhere for the good of the community as a whole, and for women themselves as part of the community. In a word, we cordially acknowledge that her support of Women's Suffrage in the more limited sphere proceeds from conviction and principle. So does ours both for the limited and the more extended sphere. We Suffragists can recognise the consistency of Mrs. Humphry Ward and her friends in supporting Women's Suffrage in local Parliaments while continuing to oppose it for the Imperial Parliament; and we must ask her to respect our consistency in maintaining our advocacy of Women's Suffrage for both.

"Millicent Garrett Fawcett,
"President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies."
May 16th.

N.U.W.W.

An erroneous idea having arisen owing to the wording of certain press telegrams, that the Queen has only recently accorded her patronage to the N.U.W.W., we desire to point out that her Majesty's name has appeared as the Patroness of that body for some years.

NATIONAL VIGILANCE ASSOCIATION.

The National Vigilance Association held its 29th annual meeting at Sunderland House on Tuesday, the 19th inst.

Mr. Arthur Lee, M.P., was in the chair, and spoke of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, which he shepherded through the House of Commons, as having had good effect in ridding the country of a large number of foreign *souteneurs*. He urged the public to be vigilant about the administration of this Act, to keep magistrates up to the mark on this point, and to report to local newspapers any cases where this Act was not well administered.

The Chief Commissioner of Police showed the watchfulness and activity of the police in dealing with matters of public morality. He stated that a lady was employed to take down the statements of women and children. He mentioned the massage, manicure, and bath establishments advertised. These he described as places of gross immorality, with which the L.C.C. have applied to Parliament for power to deal. Other speakers followed, who mentioned the Bill now before Parliament to raise the age of consent to eighteen, and a gentleman from the Home Office showed how under the Aliens Act women and men were deported to their own country, and described the valuable help rendered in this work by the National Vigilance Association, who co-operated with the Home Office in sending the women back to their homes.

QUINQUENNIAL SESSIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN AT ROME.

We have received the following interesting report from a member of the N.U.W.S.S. :—

Those who were present at the Quinquennial Sessions of the International Council of Women at Rome during the past days have been able to join in discussions and listen to speeches the memory of which will remain with them for many a long day, encouraging them in their work and filling them with renewed zeal and vigour. Not only, however, have they had opportunities of this kind, but also they have become personally acquainted with those who are striving for the betterment of the position of women all over the world. The receptions and entertainments organised by the Italian Council of Women have afforded to all of us the chance of friendly intercourse with the members of National Councils of far-off countries.

Various resolutions have been carried to urge the Governments of the various countries to improve the legal position of women, one that the National Council should endeavour to obtain laws which would guarantee the civil capacity of the married woman in relation to her personal rights and to her property, and another urging that in all countries the law should give equal rights to father and mother in all respects with regard to their children.

Very interesting speeches were made on the subject of securing an international agreement to apply to employment agencies and registry offices, and make it obligatory on them to obtain a licence which should impose certain uniform conditions in relation to the

placing of minors in situations. A resolution to this effect was proposed by Madame Avril de Ste. Croix, who spoke of the numbers of employment agencies existing for the seduction of girls, and of the necessity to take steps to prevent this. Mrs. Hamilton (Canada) urged that the word "minors" should be omitted from the resolution, as injustice was done by unregistered employment bureaux to many older women and even to young married couples. She would have preferred to substitute the word "persons" for "minors." Madame Avril de Ste. Croix, however, was strongly against this, as she felt that governments would only concern themselves with minors, and that it was desirable not to run the risk of losing all by asking more than could be granted. The resolution was carried.

Another resolution was proposed, urging that the various governments should take measures to establish some sort of supervision over young girls on board steamers and emigrant ships, and that there should be a woman specially appointed on board these vessels for the purpose. Madame Avril de Ste. Croix urged that all should take steps to see to this matter and suggested that it might be possible for two women to be paid for each country to act as matrons to supervise the emigrants. She said that a member of her Committee had received promises of money for this purpose from several societies and that the Salvation Army had offered a woman as well as money. The Contessa Danieli Camozzi seconded this resolution and Mrs. Vickery (Canada) supported it very strongly and gave a distressing account of happenings on boats going to Australia within her own knowledge. Miss Fitzgibbon (Canada) pointed out that the same kind of supervision was necessary on trans-continental trains. The resolution was carried with the addition of a rider with regard to taking similar action on the trans-continental trains.

Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon proposed a resolution recommending the National Council to consider means of encouraging some systematic teaching in the Continuation Schools and in the upper classes of girls' schools of the leading principles of laws concerning women and children and of the civic duties, responsibilities and rights of women. She pointed out that this was one of the most effective ways of building up the future of the Women's Movement. Women were now beginning to scrutinise and criticise the laws passed by men which would be applied to their homes—just as experimental science was necessary in order that women should become capable leaders of domestic affairs, so the laws regarding housing and sanitation ought to be considered and understood by women. An excellent law might be a dead letter, unless it was understood by those whom it concerned. She urged also that many women lost their earnings through not knowing how to invest them. The Rev. Anna Howard Shaw seconded the motion, pointing out that it was not only necessary that working women should have a knowledge of the laws, but that the other women of the country, who have the power to have the laws enforced, should also be acquainted with them. The resolution was passed unanimously.

On the day following the close of the Council Sessions a reception was given by the Italian Council of Women, when thanks were offered by the Countess of Aberdeen and members of the Executive Committee for the hospitality and kindness of our hostesses. One and all expressed the joy which this visit had caused them and the feelings of renewed interest with which they would return to their work in their own countries.

M. A. R.

NEWS FROM ABROAD.

U.S.A.

WOMAN'S INDEPENDENCE DAY.

The *Woman's Journal*, of the early May dates, describes enthusiastic demonstrations in every State on Woman's Independence Day, asking for federal action enfranchising women.

THE SHACROFT AMENDMENT.

The Woman Suffrage Committee of the United States Senate has reported favourably upon the "Shacroft Amendment" for simplifying the methods by which Women's Suffrage can be obtained in individual States.

NEW YORK LEGISLATION.

Suffragists in the State of New York invite comparison between the result of legislation in their State during 1914 and that of equal Suffrage States.

They complain that, of nine Bills affecting women and children, only three have been passed. The six defeated Bills deal with important questions, long attended to in many of the Suffrage States, such as Widows' Pensions, Women Assistants in Juvenile Courts, questions concerning inheritance, illegitimacy, police women, and women teachers.

HOLLAND.

The *Gazette de Hollande* reports :—

"A new petition in favour of Women's Suffrage has just been issued. . . . The Association of Women of the Netherlands makes a fresh appeal to the nation, so that the country may declare the necessity of including universal Woman Suffrage together with universal Manhood Suffrage in the Constitution."

The result of former petitions has not satisfied the Association, as they fear that the desire of the nation expressed in such petitions has not really persuaded the Government to grant the Suffrage to women on precisely the same terms as they are proposing to extend it to men.

What Shall We Eat this Hot Weather?

The summer-like weather we have been experiencing lately has caused the housewife considerable perplexity. The menfolk and the children refuse the ordinary food, and want something more tasty and inviting. The writer returned home from the City, tired and hot, carrying a sample packet of the WALLACE "P.R." FOODS. . . . "What will you have for supper; meat or ——?" "No thanks, couldn't touch it; I am going to try these samples I have had sent me. Come and join me." We started with the WALLACE "P.R." COFFEE, and found it very refreshing and delicious. Then we tasted the samples of biscuits, with a "P.R." FRUTARIAN CAKE of currant and nut, and the "P.R." CRACKER, OLIVER, HAZEL CRISPS, PLAIN LUNCH, and BARLEY were but a few of their names, and we finished with three or four of the "P.R." BODY-BUILDING BISCUITS. My two boys came in from their tennis as we had concluded our meal, and found on their plates a half of a FRUITARIAN CAKE—raisin and nut—with a good assortment of biscuits and the "P.R." BODY-BUILDING BISCUITS. I watched them eating, and listened with approval to their exclamations of delight.

Since I started to write these few lines I have been interrupted three times with the query, "Where can these be bought?" I do not like being interrupted, and I replied testily, "From the WALLACE "P.R." FOODS CO. LTD., New Factory, Tottenham Lane, Hornsey, N., or from your store or grocer."

For the benefit of every reader of THE COMMON CAUSE, I may add that full particulars and samples of these delicious and tasty foods will be sent you free on application, if you will remember to mention Dept. 11, and, if you will allow me to say so, drop them a line to-day.

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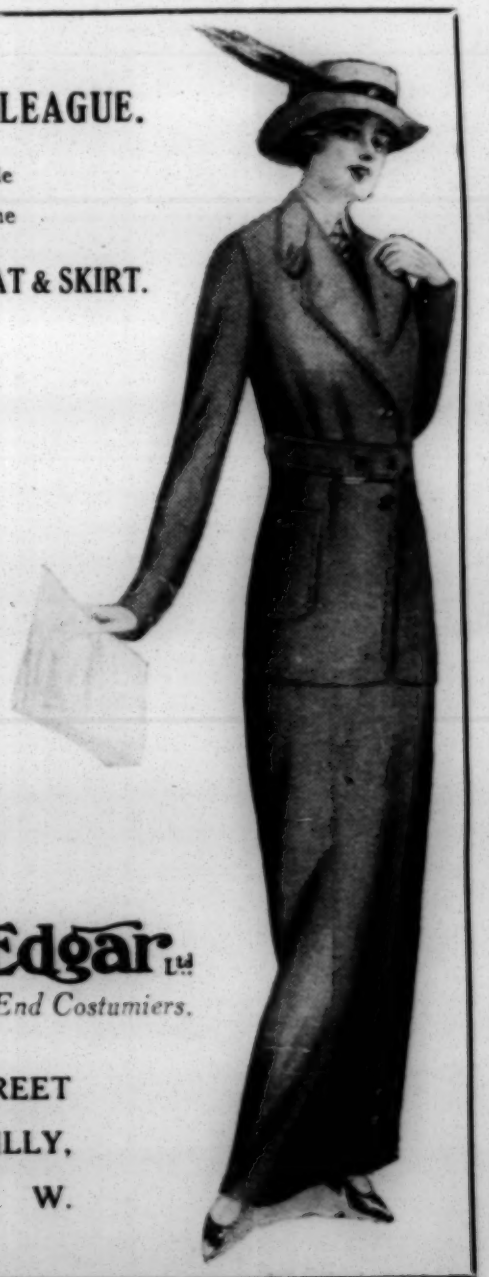

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WIND AND TIDE.

By E. RENTOUL ESLER.

Author of "The Wardlaws," "The Trackless Way," "The Way they Loved at Grimpat," "A Maid of the Manse," &c.

SYNOPSIS.

Kate Burnsley is the daughter of a rough Irish farmer, but her mother had been brought up in a refined and cultured home, and had only married Burnsley because her father, the Rev. John Moffatt, was reduced to poverty. On her mother's death, Kate takes her place as mistress of the farm, and performs her duties well, but she is in thoroughly uncongenial surroundings. Everything in the house that stirs her imagination, that seems beautiful, has come to Kate from her mother's people. Kate worships her brother Neil, who is training as a solicitor, and resents the admiration of Dick Nelson, a handsome but rough young man, who is obliged to work on her father's farm, because his people had wasted away all their possessions while he was still a child. Biddy Doyle, who comes in to "lend a hand" in the kitchen, has a great admiration for Dick, and, deeply as she is devoted to Kate, rather resents her attitude towards the young man.

CHAPTER III.

IT was September weather, and Neil Burnsley was home for a short holiday, seeming to need a brief change from the shut-in monotony of his office work. Neil was fond of home and the country and an outdoor life, but a frail constitution, expressing itself in a weak knee, shut him off from an occupation in which a man must be robust if he is to succeed.

He walked with a slight limp, as he and his sister crossed the shorn fields together, but the stick on which he leaned rather heavily terminated in a carved face that smiled grotesquely under his hand. His theory of life, evolved in those silent hours whose full tale of thought he shared with no one, was that it made for peace and progress to decorate your crosses. If you were lame, it was wise to turn your crutch into an ornament; if you stammered, then you must learn to sing.

Neil traced his antecedents to the Armada, though neither he nor any of those about him knew that. A shipwrecked soldier was responsible for the oval contour of his face, for the long, curved eyelashes and the grave lips; it was from the soldier ancestor, who had accepted life among an alien people, that he had also acquired the habit of assent to what he would not have chosen had choice been offered.

It would not have seemed easily credible at first that the girl who fluttered beside him, losing herself entirely in the simplest things he said, her myosotis blue eyes and easily parted lips, sternly set at times, but now expressing eager attention and eager assent, was his sister, and had hung on the breast of the same mother. Without knowing it, and unlikely to have rejoiced in the fact had she known, Kate drew from the paternal stem her force of character, her courage, and her subconscious assurance that we need not be beaten, that we never are beaten until we acquiesce.

Harvest had been early that year, and the grain was cut and housed or stacked already. The tawny stubble was turning brown in patches and would be darker still before the gleaming ploughshare buried it.

The two young people talked of this in leisurely fashion as they crossed the field towards a cairn of stones partly heaped together by Nature, partly collected from the surrounding land. These had been undisturbed so long that little ferns sprouted among them, and moss covered their surface with velvety patches. This spot had been a favourite resort with the Burnsleys from childhood. Here they had been wont to discuss all the problems that seemed such to their young minds.

A grey spider, swept by accident from a bush they had passed, was careering excitedly over Neil's coat. "Ugh," Kate cried, and dashed it to the ground.

Neil stooped to look for it. "I hope you have not killed it," he said.

"Why not? The world is full of them."

"Yes, but that poor female was doing no harm. We disturbed and terrified her. She was only seeking a way of escape."

"I see no beauty in spiders," Kate maintained.

"Need one kill her for that reason?"

"I am sure she is safe among the stubble, but anyway you need not break my heart about a horrid, grey, fat spider."

"But just think how curious it is that there is an instinct that makes all young creatures and savage peoples and wild animals want to kill whatever is handicapped."

"One would think you were Methuselah," the girl answered, lightly.

They had reached the boulders, and they seated themselves, she near enough to touch him when he said the half sad things that would make her eyes dim, even when he spoke with a smile.

"I want you to be a great lawyer," she said, wistfully.

He laughed gaily. "The topmost twig of the tree of fame for this sparrow! Well, that is as may be. In a country as litigious as Ireland there is money to be made in law, but I am not on the glory side of the profession. Nevertheless, I'll work hard, and I have it in my mind's eye to be honest. The rest is on the knees of the gods."

"And you don't mind much about not being allowed to read for a degree?"

"I mind less than I did. I always give in, it is my nature. When I may not do things, I always come to think, in time, that it was just as well. The old man put on the check you see. Where the money is, there is the authority."

"Father is hard," the girl answered, with an impatient sigh. "He might just as well have left you at Queen's. Your degree would have shortened the time of your apprenticeship. The outlay would have been the same in the end."

"He thought a degree a fal-lal for a solicitor. He knew men got on all right without one."

"But better with one. It gives professional status?" Kate replied, being rather proud to use words little known on the farm.

"True, but it is not necessary for money making."

At that moment a smart trap with bright equipments and a neat, small groom in livery passed along the high road, and Neil directed attention to it, not sorry, perhaps, to change the conversation. It was part of his philosophy to avoid reference to unpleasantnesses that were passed.

"See there. Dr. Mommsen is only a double-equal man, but he makes twice the money that falls to Dr. Grey, who has a degree in Arts and one in Medicine. Knack is just as useful as learning for getting on."

"Money is not everything." Thus spoke the practical person to the poet.

"No, but it is a good deal," the poet replied. "It means all the pleasant things in life, the nice surroundings, the nice clothes, the agreeable friends, the occasional holidays, the books, the pictures, and sharing in all with the dearest little sister in the world."

She drew her hand caressingly down his sleeve. Ulster people are not demonstrative. The action meant a great deal of unexpressed feeling.

"Will it ever be that we two shall live together?" she asked, wistfully.

"Certainly."

"I don't let myself build on it. On the contrary, I always say, when I have thought it all out: 'It will never be, but it is cheery to think about.' You see, staying on with Curtis & McMonagle, as you may have to do, if father won't finance you, will afford you only a medium salary—only enough for lodgings for yourself. Then also you will want to marry in time, and then you would not need me."

"I don't think I shall ever marry; don't think I shall want to. Meantime, I will save and save, always keeping before me the kind of cottage you would like. It will be set in a lawn, and will have many chimneys, and a gabled roof, and French windows. Oh! yes, we shall have it; we shall think about it so hard that it will be bound to materialise."

It was little wonder that talk like this had rendered Richard Nelson's wooing abhorrent. Kate might work hard in the farm kitchen and dairy, might do much laundry work with her own hands, but her dreams were towards a life of leisured refinement.

"I shall want you to take your degree the very first thing," Kate said, planting a firm foot on the upspringing bloom of her own hope. "That will be time enough after you are enrolled."

"Fellows don't usually bother then. The opportunity has passed; it seems too late."

"Still, I would, in your place."

"I should not have time or money for several years, and those years usually take that kind of ambition away. It is a wonder father was so set against it. You think he has money, don't you?"

"Lots," Kate answered, briefly.

"When a man has money it seems as if he ought to educate his children well. What is the good of money unless to get the things one wants? To give the people belonging to us a good start, isn't it the beginning of all reasonable ambition?"

The girl sighed. There was more to say than her limited vocabulary seemed able to express. Judging from her own experience, fathers were all hard and unsympathetic, when you did well expressing no approval; when you did amiss, cutting you to the bone with scornful censure. Happily there were brothers whose kindness restored the balance.

"If there is anything in the wide world I can do to help you, Neil, you shall only have to ask it," she said, a little tremulously, after a pause.

"What could you do, acushla?" the boy asked, with a smile. "Sure, you do your best as it is. As regards father, I suppose when money is hard to earn it is hard to part from. He paid my fee to Curtis & McMonagle, and I suppose he thinks that enough."

"He must have thousands and thousands," Kate answered, impatiently. "Isn't the rent low, and does not almost all we live on come out of the land? For myself, if a meal a day would give you what you want, I'd live on it, and never think I was hungry."

"That's bonnie of you, but I don't want the price of your food." He coughed as he spoke, and she passed her hand through his arm and pressed it.

"You don't think the office disagrees with you, do you?" she asked, anxiously. "You look a bit thinner than you did in the spring."

"I'm all right. The office is not very bright, but it is no worse for me than for the others. If I had had my degree it would have shortened my time there, but we need not dwell on that. When I have an office of my own it will be in a sunny street, facing south, so that when people are there they will feel cheery. It will make them sure I shall win their cases."

He laughed as he spoke. The thoughts of the two young creatures were all fixed on the future. She was not yet seventeen, nor he much over twenty. At that age there seem more prizes than defeats in the great race, when the runners are ourselves or those we love.

CHAPTER IV.

KATE was on her way home from the neighbouring market town. In her hand she carried a paper bag that contained a few personal purchases available from the small store of egg-money that fell to her share. It was from the dairy and the fowl-yard that farmers' wives and daughters of the old school drew their own allowance.

That a heroine should derive the chief joy of her life from shopping is humiliating, but humiliating facts remain facts nevertheless. Kate believed it to be acquisitiveness that quickened her pulse, and made her face flush when she found herself where glistening materials and stripes of bright hue lay spread out before her. It was really from a delight in colour which her heart felt, but her slow tongue could not have explained. She had an innocent, impersonal pleasure in looking at well-assorted piles of glistening stuffs, in touching soft or richly-tinted materials. A milliner's room made her heart beat, stirring her passionate and inarticulate colour sense; she could have spent an entire day fingering ribbons, twisting breadths of silk this way and that for the joy their sheen gave her.

As she came along the path that led across the fields, and afforded a short cut towards her home, she was reflecting seriously on many possibilities. She wanted to make money; she had many dreams of the joys that were possible to those who had money available for pleasant plans.

People often grew rich doing things they liked to do; no one grew rich through farming. There was Mrs. Stubbs, in whose shop she had bought the trifles in her bag; she made a lot of money, as everyone knew; what was to hinder her, Kate Burnsley, from doing the same, if she were given the chance? Now, if her father would apprentice her to Mrs. Stubbs, as he had apprenticed Neil to Curtis & McMonagle, she was quite, quite sure she could learn to make dresses and hats successfully. There would be no difficulty in the way, if only her father would be reasonable. There was her Aunt Jane, his own sister, she would love to come to Laganside, she would think it social and financial promotion, and would take infinite pride in her brother's possessions; would be keenly interested in the number of the fowls, the growth of the cattle, and the extent of the dairy produce. Why could her father not be reasonable, and give his daughter a life in which progress would be possible? She knew he would not do it; that was because he was not reasonable. Kate thought male unreason was like bad weather, a thing that had to be assented to, no matter how unintelligently it came, or how disastrously it wrought.

This disappointing reflection did not embitter her; there were always Neil's prospects to console her; also, when one is young, and the sky smiles, and one has in one's grasp a few pretty things for self-decoration, it is not possible to remain long under depression. Neil would be home at the week's end; she would have her new ribbons ready for the evening of his advent, and she had still two shillings left over from her purchases.

As she stepped lightly along the field path she was not disposed to fret because of dull days or hard work. The evening was beautiful, scent-laden breezes blew from the west, the turf was springy to the feet, and the air was full of music. A yellow hammer cried from a distant bush, and in gladness of heart she syllabilised its notes.

"A little bit of bread, no cheese," the bird seemed to sing to the rustic ear.

"A little bit of bread, no cheese," Kate lilted back, her voice rising a note higher each time.

She had a talent no one knew of but Neil, a talent she was ashamed of, though indulgence in it often diverted her idle hours. There was not a two-footed creature within the range of her vision—song-bird or barn-fowl—that she could not mimic, adding touches of personal comedy that were more amusing by reason of her gravity in producing them.

For five minutes girl and bird had carolled against each other, then suddenly a human sound broke in on the concert, a distant, hoarse cry of warning or menace.

Against the horizon, and about a mile away, the girl saw a thin stream of people that ran towards her. It was from these the sounds came—evidently they were in pursuit of something.

"A poor fox or hare," she said to herself, disdainfully. She was rather scornful of the grown men who could take pleasure in hunting a hapless wild creature to its death, pitting all their dexterity and knowledge against its instinct of life. It was bad enough to have to kill creatures from necessity—for food, or because they were a danger to the farm or the fowl-yard—but to destroy them for pleasure, why what joy was there in the sight of blood-wet fur or feathers?

Her eyes, with a dash of contempt in them, watched the moving figures that resolved themselves into farm hands—men and half grown boys carrying hay-forks, spades, any rustic implement snatched hastily.

The thing they were pursuing advanced in a straight line, with a curious, crawling rush, like a piece of mechanism that had been wound up, and was running itself down unintelligently; as it came nearer, Kate saw it was a dog, its eyes swollen and blood-shot, its tongue drooping from its foaming jaws, its coat wet, as though it had been dragged through the river, the fur bristling and reversed as if a stiff brush had been passed backwards against the surface.

The girl's heart seemed to stand still, her limbs stiffened, and a great shudder of dread and horror passed over her.

Now the cries had grown articulate. "Mad dog, mad dog," and she was right in the creature's way, as it came, snapping this side and that, at objects visible only to its diseased imagination.

"Run." The word reached her like a gasp of pain, and, dropping her frail purchases, she turned and fled as one flees when death is behind.

It was a nightmare of blindness and gasping breath and failing feet; years of agony forced into a few brief minutes, the anguish of all hunted creatures realised by a reasoning being who understood that there is a horror beside which death is deliverance.

"Pray," she gasped, "pray." The brief word summed up all she was able to formulate of petition and appeal. For months afterwards she had dreams of being a hunted quarry, pursued by everything that runs or crawls and can hiss or bite.

Suddenly a hand closed on hers, and the contact seemed to break the bonds of steel that bound her limbs. She turned aside as the clasp on her fingers directed, and made across the fields, at a right-angle to the course she had been taking.

"One should never run before a mad dog," the man gasped. "They always go straight, so, if you can get out of the way they are taking, you are all right."

She clung to his arm, hiding her pallid face against it. "Dick, Dick," she faltered.

"Did you not hear me call to you to turn?" he asked, in the same shaken voice.

"I thought you said 'Run.'"

He put his arm about her. "If you had been bitten what should I have done?" he asked, piteously.

There are things that level all social barriers and all obstacles of pride and sentiment—death, and the things that mean death, hunger, battle, pestilence, shipwreck. Kate realised the loathly danger she had escaped, realised that the man beside her had saved her from it. Had he been a leper she would have kissed his hands in the first grateful consciousness of her deliverance.

She clung to him, shuddering.

"My love," he whispered, and kissed the hair from which her hat had fallen.

(*To be continued.*)

A Charming Hygienic Tea-pot.

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"Consented."

The Gordon Street Club always had a Spring outing. Annie Monies had only joined at Christmas, but by dint of foregoing her Sunday bag of sweets, and never going to her work in the tram even on the wettest days, she succeeded in saving the necessary one-and-ninepence by the end of May.

She had never saved so much before in her life. Miss Bell said that the lesson in thrift was half the value of the outing.

It was a glorious Saturday afternoon as the brake, full of excited girls, left the ugly noisy town and gained the open country.

"Ain't all the world *green?*" said one of them as the fresh young foliage met her astonished eyes.

"Not 'arf," replied another. "And ain't it jest wonderful to see such a big piece of sky all at once?"

She was gazing over the rolling country to where sky and green earth met, she had never seen the horizon before.

They had tea in a village schoolroom and then went into meadows and woods to gather flowers.

Annie, still feeling herself a recent member, was a little shy of the older Club girls, and wandered off by herself.

It was nearly time to return when Miss Bell came upon her, and stood still to contemplate the pretty picture she made. She was sitting hatless in the midst of a bank of bluebells, singing softly to herself one of the Club songs. Behind her rose a hedge of blossoming hawthorn; and the late afternoon sun lit up the auburn shades in her curling chestnut hair—sweetness and light lay all around her as she sat, fragile and young, amid all the young things of the year.

"If she were not so thin and delicate looking," thought Miss Bell, "how pretty she would be!"

"Annie," she asked, "what kind of work do you do?"

"Sorts waste paper, Miss, the clean from the dirty," she answered.

"And where do you work?"

"Oh, at Evan's Paper Mills; it is underground, see? Our shop: they tips the cartloads o' waste down at one end, an' we sorts; my! it's dusty sometimes, it ain't like this 'ere."

And she drew in a deep breath of the pure air, as she reluctantly rose to go back.

Annie Monies did not return to the Club in the autumn, but the following February a girl brought Miss Bell a message that Annie was ill and would like to see her.

"I tried to find her before," said Miss Bell, "but they had left the old address."

"Yes, they've flitted twice sin' Annie come to the Club," said the girl.

Miss Bell sighed; she knew the tale of poverty and unpaid rent that probably lay behind that information. It was four days before her home claims allowed her to call at the address given.

When she arrived at the typical slum dwelling where Annie lived, the door was opened by a harsh featured woman, who bore traces of having been very nice looking in her girlhood.

"What d'yer want?" she asked suspiciously.

Miss Bell explained why she had come.

The woman's hard mouth twitched, she looked at her visitor with a curious expression, and then, without a word, led the way up a dark and crooked staircase into the one bedroom, which, with an attic, was all the sleeping accommodation the house contained for a family of eight persons. One large bedstead almost filled the close, untidy little room, and Miss Bell gave a gasp of dismay, for on it there lay a still young form covered by a single sheet.

The mother watched the grief and horror that grew in the visitor's face as she gazed at the outlines of the little figure on the bed.

"She took stuff she didn't ought," she explained, her voice dull and toneless; "but she'm better dead, though I sez it as are 'er mother."

Miss Bell drew back the sheet from the girl's face, but hastily replaced it.

"Yes, she suffered a lot," said the woman laconically.

Her companion looked at her in amazement; did she really not care, or—the mother interrupted her thoughts, "I shall miss her money," she said. "There's five others littler, an' none of 'em old enough to go to work."

Dimly Miss Bell realised that the desperate struggle to live, to find enough food from day to day, nay, from one meal to the next, dominated every other thought and feeling in these people's lives. They either became crushed into the apathy of despair or hardened into indifference, or they took to drink in sheer self-defence; and yet—she remembered how the mother's lips had quivered when she had first explained her errand.

Then her mind went back to the day of the Club outing, and the dead child's innocent delight then in the flowers and the fresh air.

"Please ter mind yerself, Miss," said the woman, as she led the way downstairs, "they stairs is that orkard, they ain't 'ardly safe."

On gaining the living-room Miss Bell asked a few questions.

"And can't the man be punished?" she demanded at last.

"No," replied Mrs. Monies dully. "Yer see, Annie were jest turned sixteen, an' it's the law that at sixteen girls is old enough ter take care of theirselves."

Miss Bell thought of the fair little face among the bluebells, less than a year ago.

"But she was only a child," she said, "and the man you say is over forty."

"Well, Miss, it do seem 'ard," said the mother slowly, "but the likes of you and me carnt 'elp the law, can we?" Carol Ring.

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Correspondence.

ANTI-SUFFRAGE FALLACIES.

MADAM,—My letter in last week's COMMON CAUSE, on a paragraph in Lord Curzon's speech in the House of Lords, contained an unfortunate misprint, which, I am afraid, somewhat obscures the argument. What I wrote was: "You cannot get on to the London County Council *unless your party backs you* in a constituency where your (not 'our,' as the printer put it) party *is in a majority*." I meant, of course, that no one, man or woman, has a chance of success unless backed by one of the political parties in a constituency where that party is sure of a majority at the polls. I should not have troubled you with this correction if I did not feel that the fact to which I was calling attention is one of great importance and is constantly being lost sight of. ELINOR RENDEL.

[*We regret that Mrs. Rendel's quotation at the beginning of her letter was inadvertently altered. It should have read, "Magna est veritas, et prævalet."*—ED., C.C.]

HIGH PRICES AND ADULTERATED FOOD.

MADAM,—The conference recently held on "The Increased Cost of Living" and "A Legal Standard of Quality for Food," which was attended by delegates from eighty different societies, elected a deputation to wait on the Home Secretary and the Local Government Board. After some correspondence, we received the following replies:—

"Home Office, April 3rd, 1914.

"MADAM,—With reference to your letter of the 25th ult., enclosing a resolution from a conference held at Toynbee Hall on March 7th, to consider 'The Increased Cost of Living' and 'A Legal Standard of Quality for Food,' I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that as these matters do not come within the jurisdiction of this department, he does not think that any useful purpose would be served by his receiving the deputation.—I am, &c., "(Signed) MALCOLM DELEVINGNE."

"Local Government Board, May 4th, 1914.

"MADAM,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to your letter of the 2nd ult., forwarding a copy of the resolution passed at the conference recently held at Toynbee Hall on 'The Increased Cost of Living' and 'A Legal Standard of Quality for Food.'

"I am to state that these resolutions have been noted, but that the President is not at present able to arrange to receive the proposed deputation from the conference.—I am, &c.,

"(Signed) NOELL KEEN, Assistant Secretary."

The matter now remains for those housekeepers and others who desire to protest against the growing increase of prices, and who wish to have some protection against adulteration, substitution, and inferiority of the goods supplied, to get their local M.P.'s to press this matter on the attention of the Government.

(Signed) MARGARETTA HICKS (Secretary of Conference Committee).

SPIRITS IN PRISON.

MADAM,—I have just seen your highly ingenious leading article of May 1st, commenting on Lady Constance Lytton's "Prisons and Prisoners," and I should be most grateful if you would grant me space to call attention to the extremely dangerous doctrines to which it appears to commit you.

The basis of your argument is that society has no more right to coerce the militant Suffragists (whom you do not for this purpose distinguish from criminals) than the militant Suffragist to do violence to society. The militants are merely called upon as a matter of grace to be more generous to society than society has been to them, since all liberty consists in shaking off the bondage of that pest, to which the practice of retaliation itself belongs. It follows that there is no distinction between freedom and anarchy, between liberty that is based on law and liberty that is based on lawlessness.

For if liberty is based on law, two conclusions follow: (1) All existing laws have a real (though not an absolute) moral claim to respect as being at least imperfect formulations of the principles on which society rests. (2) Society through its organ of government has a right of coercion against those who violate such laws; and this right, so far from implying, necessarily rejects the right of the person coerced to retaliate upon society. The psychological result produced upon the law-breaker by coercion does not affect this principle. For society does not coerce primarily with a view to reforming the criminal, but with a view to protecting the laws on which its own existence depends. If the evil results of coercion on the individual destroy the right to coerce, anarchy is in practice proclaimed.

Now, your whole appeal to the militants seems based on the denial of this right of coercion and of the moral claim of the existing laws which this right enforces. Such denials issue logically in the repudiation of law as the basis of social liberty, and in the destruction of the society which it supports; since it is impracticable to combine a respect of law in the abstract with a wholesale rejection of existing laws as "bondage to the past."

To base the whole objection to militancy on a dislike of coercion in all its forms is a mere surrender to social anarchy, and seems a somewhat paradoxical position for a law-abiding journal to adopt.

O. C. QUICK.

[*We gladly publish the above letter from Rev. O. C. Quick, which has been held over owing to pressure on space. We do not thereby admit that he rightly interprets the argument of the leader, "Spirits in Prison."*—ED., C.C.]

"GIRLS NOT WANTED."

MADAM,—In *The Standard* for May 2nd, appears a headline "Girls not Wanted." Beneath it is a description of the antipathy shown by boys for joining girls in celebrating "Empire Day." The writer says: "The objection is inherent in boy nature. No boy wants to do what girls are doing. He takes his pursuits very seriously, and directly girls enter into the scheme all the seriousness is gone."

As subscriptions in support of the Empire Day movement come largely from women, would it not be well for women's subscriptions to cease until boys are willing to associate with girls? If I remember rightly, in the Commonwealth Reformatory in Dorsetshire the boys at one time objected to co-operating with the girls, but were brought to heel by the girls ceasing to cook, wash, or otherwise work for the common welfare.

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C.C. * Strike out paragraph not required.

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Notice.—*This paper is obtainable at newsagents and bookstalls by midday on Friday. If any difficulty is found in obtaining it locally, please communicate with The Manager,* The Common Cause.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

This Merry Month.

"In a summer season, when soft was the sun," a certain Peter the Ploughman lay on the Malvern Hills. So we read in a book of some six hundred years ago. Since then millions of persons have enjoyed summer delights in like fashion. May has always called to the holiday spirit in man. It has always spoken of something more real than the daily toil, of something which alone makes that toil worth while. The month is a month of gaiety. Nature is gay with a very madness of merriment, which in a human being would be dubbed unbalanced and childish. But Dame Nature at play is a feminine type whose existence is its own best justification. The corn, the fruit, the useful, sensible things, come later—in May there are the lambs, the pink and white apple blossom, the buttercups, the gorgeous troublesome dandelions, and the shimmer of sunlit green on the trees—and all just for the fun of the thing. And we are the children of Nature, and the heart within each of us dances with the flowers.

But as Piers Plowman lay on the hills and saw these things, he saw also another vision—the vision of what man has made of this fair creation. May, the mad and merry month, is, of all the twelve, the chosen of those whom the unseeing call visionaries. Visionaries they are, for they see, and the others are blind.

On the twenty-fourth of this month we are bidden to glory in our great empire, and in so far as it is an empire founded on liberty and justice, we do glory. But, in any case, there are enough to make their boast on Empire Day. Some think other thoughts in May, and they too may claim the month for their own.

Whatever our country or our creed, we women sometimes like to remember that the Roman Catholic Church has named May the Month of Mary, and that thus this time of gorgeous, defiant life is dedicate in thousands of homes and churches throughout the world to contemplation of that ten-fold strength, the strength of purity.

A theologian is reputed to have said that if a thing is true it is not new, and if it is new it is not true. But indeed, the seemingly new is often only the old truth, bursting forth afresh in its eternal growth. It may be that some invisible bond binds the sleepy Umbrian village church, bedecked with its blue, to the busy, garish streets of the cities of the West. For the women of the United States have ordained that May 2nd shall be known as Women's Independence Day "for ever" until women's political freedom has been won. "From coast to coast, not only in all the States, but in practically all the principal cities, as well as in many towns, women gathered together and asked for their enfranchisement. May 2nd, the first Women's Independence Day, has burned itself into the history of the nation."

Thus, according to the capacity of weak and erring human nature, in a new language and a new manner, the message goes forth again, that there is in very truth a strength greater than itself warring against greedy gain and brutish force.

What is this brutish force? Or rather, what is it not? It is not physical force, muscular strength, in itself, for in itself this gift of Nature is good, and can be put to noble uses. Where does the woman's cause find its best friends? It finds them

among those who toil, and not least among those whose muscles are tough as iron from long-continued manual labour. And for them also May has a message. Labour has taken May Day for its very own. All the world over, whatever the Labour political programme may be (and it is diverse as the countries where Labour is awakening are many), Labour rejoices on the First of May. Some have said, let Labour take the Saturday or the Sunday nearest, but the man of true insight replies: No—for me shall be one real holiday, taken deliberately, as an earnest of the future. "May Day, to have any significance at all, means that for one day Labour has freed itself from its fetters, and will rejoice," are the words of such a man. "May hath a greater promise for you. Work shall not be a task, but a pleasure. It shall again have dignity. Leisure shall not mean waste." What Labour is claiming for men,—of greater dignity, and more joy,—it has learnt to claim for women also, and the fidelity of Labour to this great ideal is the measure of our comradeship with it. We hear of the "graciousness of womanhood," and we claim for oppressed women an environment where such graciousness can live. We hold that so long as life teaches girls what is ugly and degraded, and the house mother continues a drudge, just so long there is something wrong with the world. And we are born to set it right. Therefore we shall pursue the quest through evil report and good report, not with the morbid imaginings of the weak fanatic, but with the strength of joy and hope we drink in at every pore in this merry month of May.

Empire Day and the Daughters of Empire.

Our attention has been called to various paragraphs and letters which have appeared in the Press during the last few weeks on the subject of the Hyde Park demonstration on Saturday in connection with Empire Day. Careful inquiry into the facts leaves no doubt in our mind that the daughters of the Empire have been gravely slighted. It appears that the League of the Empire has this year refrained from inviting girls to take part in the Empire Day display. What is the history of this League and its Empire Day? A woman, Mrs. Fesseden, of Hamilton, Ontario, first conceived the idea of an Empire Day, and the British League of the Empire was founded in 1891. It owes its growth largely to the devotion and efficiency of women, and women generously support it with their money. A few years ago it established, "in the centre of Empire," an annual parade at which boys and girls could demonstrate their loyalty to the flag. Boys and girls alike have entered eagerly into the spirit of the thing; the girls' organisations have shown themselves orderly and efficient, and some of them, as for example, the Foundlings (in their mob caps), have turned out so smart and well disciplined that they have evoked the cordial recognition of the public.

Yet this year the League has been informed that if these girls are there, certain organisations of boys and young men will not come. The boys' amazing arrogance has been thus defended in a letter to the Press:—

> "I think that the Empire Day Parade would command greater attention as a demonstration of Young England prepared to undertake their *rôle* in the national defence, if the girls were eliminated. Naturally, cadets who are recognised by the naval and military authorities wish to receive that approbation that they so fully deserve. . . . I speak not without knowledge of my theme that the youth of the country are desirous of taking part in serious training, and have no wish to be scorned as playing at the game, which may be associated (*sic*) if girls are present."

We are not concerned in this article to discuss the relative merits of militarism and pacificism, but the advocates of militarism are not always the wisest counsellors for a great nation in the conduct of its affairs, and there is dangerous unwisdom in these words. Let the gentleman who thus defends the ill-breeding of the boys inquire into the life history of each boy, and of each boy's mother. No lad among them would have seen the light unless his mother had been willing to go down into the valley of the shadow of death. All is cheerful and bright as the boys rally, in mimic warlike array at the base of the flag—they mean honestly by their country, but they are untested. Their mothers have suffered, but not they.

The Committee of the League has this year yielded to these boys, and "eliminated the girls." We do not propose to discuss the wisdom or the courage shown by the Committee in a difficult position. Their Chairman informs the public that he has received many letters of protest from girls' organisations in regard to their exclusion, and he states that "the League has always recognised the principle that the girls have as good a claim to take part in Empire Day Demonstrations as the boys," and further, that "some arrangement may be made whereby the legitimate aspirations of the girls may be met."

We assert that the girls should not have to fight this battle for themselves. The public owes as much gratitude to a girl who is willing to do her duty by the Empire as to a boy. The display in Hyde Park is symbolic. Of what is it a symbol? Of an Empire wherein one sex exploits another, where vulgar display or conceit takes the place of heroism and discipline, and where services to the Empire are only recognised if they are done to the sound of a drum—or of an Empire built up upon whatsoever is pure and just and of good report? If the Empire does not need its daughters, let it say so on Empire Day; but if its daughters are dear to it as its sons, let it accord to them on Empire Day, the honourable place which they justly claim.

CHILD WELFARE AT THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

A visit to the Child Welfare Exhibition, at the Imperial Institute, cannot fail to impress even the most unimpressionable, with the immense amount that is being done for the education—moral, mental, and physical—of the children of the poor; at the same time it brings home what a deal more there is to be done to bring any radical change and relief into their lives. The Montessori educational system, primarily adapted for the mentally deficient, but equally applicable to the average child, is most interesting, showing as it does how the senses of sight, touch, and hearing can be trained, without any *direct* appeal to the brain; also, at how early an age a child can be taught usefulness and self-reliance can be seen from the photos showing small children of four and five years of age washing up the crockery after a meal.

The City of Westminster Health Society have a practical exhibit, showing a stretcher bed that can be constructed at a cost of 10½d., put up and taken to pieces with the minimum of trouble, and which occupies no space when not in use, and by this means it is hoped to put a stop to the practice of crowding whole families of children into the same bed! Their scheme of a Health Centre, controlling the many branches, such as pre-natal visits, notification of birth, notification of tuberculosis, care of children, &c., shows an efficient system without bothering the mothers with too many visits from those who are working for their good. Open-air education is well represented, there being an interesting model of Miss McMillan's plan for an open-air camp, exhibited by the Deptford Health Centre; also photographs of the L.C.C. open-air schools. Needlework, simple cookery, domestic economy, in every aspect is shown. In all these things one sees the effect of woman's thought and energy, and woman's tender heart.

THE REASON WHY NURSES ARE SCARCE.

The following is from an authentic source, though, for obvious reasons, the name of the hospital in question is not published:—

One of the instances of the conditions which nurses have to put up with, comes to us from a hospital with a large and important electrical department. The department is adapted from cellars, is entirely underground, and but for the exception of two small skylights, is artificially lighted.

Here, for thirteen hours a day, less three hours for meals and recreation, the nurses deal with some of the most terrible and disfiguring diseases there are. No fresh air is admitted, the sole ventilation being by means of an electric fan, and during one whole winter, absolutely no means of heating were provided. Needless to say, the young nurses continually suffer from want of vitality and nervous depression.

It is extraordinary that while there is Government inspection for factories, there should be no inspection compulsory for hospitals. Considering the long hours in a continual atmosphere of sickness, the exacting nature of their work, and the mental and nervous strain they are called upon to undergo, such conditions for nurses work are, to say the least of it, economical blunders.

NEWNHAM COLLEGE SUFFRAGISTS AND MR. McKENNA.

Mr. McKenna was the guest of the evening at the Annual Dinner of the Cambridge University Liberal Club on Saturday, May 16th. On learning that this was to be the case, the only two women members on the committee of the club resigned, and, contrary to the reports which have appeared in the Press, no members of Newnham College were present at the dinner.

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N.E. DERBYSHIRE BY-ELECTION.

Result—Major Harland Bowden (U)	...	6,469
Mr. F. P. Houfton (Lib.) ...	...	6,155
Mr. J. P. Martin (Lab.) ...	...	3,669
Unionist Majority	...	314

By the time that this issue of The Common Cause is in the readers' hands, the result of the election will be known. It would, therefore, be absurd to attempt to prophesy. One fact, however, we should like to emphasise. There has never been any independent Labour propaganda in the division before. The gospel being preached to the people now is a new gospel; the vote which Mr. Martin polls will be a new vote, representing not the potential strength of Labour in the division, but the amount of headway against habit and tradition which it has been possible to make in ten days.

Our prophecy of last week, that Women's Suffrage would be popular when well understood here, has been more than justified. Never has there been a more enthusiastic reception of our speakers, nor (and this is a great test) a more eager demand for our badges. Mr. Houfton's supporters are melancholy. The other night, after our great meeting, which, we were told, "took Staveley by storm," a sort of informal deputation of Liberal men waited upon us at our committee rooms. They were much distressed because we had received no answer from Mr. Houfton to our questions. Indeed, they did not think he could have received them (He had!) or he *must* have replied. When they were convinced that we had been ignored by their candidate, they at once declared that they would approach him themselves, that very night, and let him know how deeply they cared about the question. As a matter of fact, since that we have managed to secure interviews with both candidates, and have found their attitude totally unsatisfactory. Neither is against Women's Suffrage, but neither is prepared to lift a finger for it. This makes our support of Mr. Martin doubly justified.

Mr. Houfton, when asked why he had sent no reply to our questions, answered "that if he answered all the questions he received, he would have no time to get on with the election." He entirely declined to answer our questions in writing, and refused to pledge himself in any way whatever.

The Conservative candidate, Major Bowden, although a friend of Women's Suffrage, refused to say what steps he was prepared to take in support of it, his attitude having been weakened by militancy.

As usual, the arousing of a deep interest in political issues amongst the women of the district has been one of the most notable fruits of our propaganda, associated, as it is, with that of the Labour party. They come in great numbers to the Labour meetings, and win the admiration and applause of the men by their pertinent comments and interjections. Especially were they delighted with a woman who, when a man in the audience, arguing against the idea of the inevitable antagonism of capital and labour, appealed to the women—"Now, you women, when you go into a shop and have to buy something, you don't feel there is any antagonism between you and the man behind the counter," shouted in reply, "Aye, but you have to watch 'im!" thus putting the whole case of the previous speakers in a nutshell. Yes—there is no doubt about it—the women are amazingly keen and sharp, and they will bring into politics a practical sense and shrewd insight which have been somewhat lacking up till now.

Between forty and fifty meetings have been held so far, about half indoors and half out, the number of villages covered being between twenty and thirty. The fine weather has been a great help to the out-door meetings, though it does not seem to have prevented people from coming into the halls. Some of the meetings have been Suffrage only, but most of them have been "joint," and both Labour and Suffrage speakers have taken part. Mr. Brace, Mr. Smillie, Mr. John Robertson, Mr. Tom Richardson, Mr. Stephen Walsh, Mr. Pointer, Mr. Fred Hall, and others have spoken finely on behalf of the Suffrage cause.

Comic relief has, as usual, been furnished by the Anti-suffragists, but they confine themselves to the street-corners, and very little notice is taken of them. Miss Violet Markham is, however, taking an active part in the election on behalf of the Liberal candidate, and she is reported in the press as having declared at a meeting the other night that Mr. Frank Hall, the popular Treasurer of the Derbyshire Miners' Association, "has not the brains of a rabbit." Surely such criticism of the superior sex is presumptuous in a mere woman, and scarcely up to the level of womanly gentleness and refinement which we look for in the leaders of the great Anti-suffrage movement!

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IPSWICH BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: **Mr. C. F. G. Masterman,** *Liberal.*
Mr. Ganzoni, *Unionist.*
Mr. John Scurr, *Independent Socialist.*
Polling Day.—Saturday.

The National Union is carrying on an energetic campaign of propaganda, and is opposing Mr. Masterman (Liberal), both as a member of the Government which has failed to redeem its pledges on the Suffrage question, and as one of those who did most to secure the defeat of the Conciliation Bill.

Mr. Masterman, it will be remembered, voted against the Conciliation Bill in 1910 and 1912, and against the Woman's Suffrage Amendment to the Irish Home Rule Bill in November, 1912; he paired for the Conciliation Bill in 1911, and voted for the Dickinson Bill last year (a Bill which we were not supporting because it was obvious that its passage into law was impossible, even if it secured a majority on Second Reading). Mr. Masterman has, in fact, only given his vote for Women's Suffrage when such support was not likely to lead to any practical results, and has voted against it whenever his support was most needed.

Apart from his votes in the House of Commons, his public record, like that of Mr. Asquith (whose attitude is, no doubt, largely responsible for that of his follower), shows a marked unwillingness to receive evidence of the growth and strength of the Women's Suffrage movement. In October of last year, he declined to receive a representative and influential deputation of Trade Unionists at Watford, and again, in December, while on a visit to Newport, Mon., he refused to meet a deputation from the local branch of the N.U. Both these deputations desired to lay before him evidence of the increasing demand for Women's Suffrage, and Mr. Masterman, in refusing to see them, was merely carrying out the ostrich-like policy of a Government which ignores any evidence of so unpleasant a fact as the urgency of the demand for Women's Suffrage.

Mr. Ganzoni (Conservative) says he is not an Anti-suffragist, but he will give no pledge to support a Women's Suffrage Bill if he is returned to Parliament.

Mr. Scurr (Independent Socialist) has replied in the affirmative to all the N.U.'s questions, but in view of the fact that militant methods are advocated from his platform, the Union is unable to co-operate in his campaign.

The arrival of the Suffragists in Ipswich appeared to reduce the local police to a state of mind bordering on panic, and they endeavoured to wash their hands of all responsibility for the safety of some half-dozen peaceable citizens, some of whose friends felt inclined to envy them the chance of experiencing in real life the adventures and excitements of life in the Middle Ages. One Suffragist, who put up at a quiet and respectable temperance hotel, was informed by the Chief Constable that if she chose to take up her abode in one of the main streets of Ipswich at election times she did so at her own risk. On returning to her dangerous lodging she heard that the proprietress had been accused of "harbouring Suffragists," that the police had "reason to believe that the place would be raided by roughs on Saturday night," that the police could not protect her, and had advised her to board up her windows! The situation suggested a Saxon castle awaiting the onslaught of a Norman baron. After these ominous warnings it was a consolation to see large bands of ambulance workers, of all kinds, being drafted into the town!

At the time of writing the state of affairs is very different. Having failed to frighten the Suffragists out of the town, and thus relieve themselves of one, at least, of their responsibilities, the police authorities seem to have thought better of it, and decided to help them to carry out their determination to hold orderly meetings. On Tuesday, *The Morning Post* reported that each Suffragist speaker was guarded by a separate policeman! In future, Ipswich will perhaps know better how to treat peaceful, law-abiding citizens, even if they do happen to be women.

Meanwhile, in the midst of these excitements, a vigorous propaganda campaign is being carried on by the N.U., and some of the best speakers in the Union have been secured to speak during the week. As usual, the women monopolise the crowds, and the party organisers have to leave their favourite pitches in a state of disgust, thinking perhaps that it might have been wiser, after all, to give women the vote a few years ago.

Appeal for the Ipswich Campaign.

Nothing can be more helpful to our Cause than a successful by-election campaign, and for several reasons. In the first place, our policy, when applied at a by-election, produces a direct political effect, of which the North-East Derby by-election

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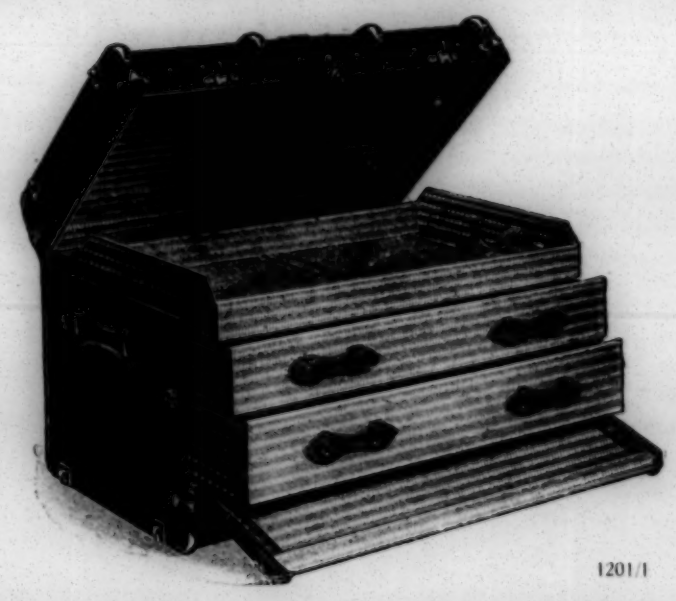

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affords a splendid example. We published last week (page 121) an account of what our Election Fighting Policy has achieved, with an urgent appeal for funds for the N.-E. Derby contest. We give a second chapter of that record to-day (see below).

But for general propaganda purposes also a by-election campaign is invaluable. While it is in progress we are able to concentrate some of our best speakers and most capable workers in the constituency. By getting into closer touch with the public than is possible under ordinary circumstances, they are able to do more effective propaganda than at any other time, and also to leave behind them substantial records of the work they have done. The thousand "Friends" enrolled during the Grimsby campaign constitute a record of this nature, and will add to the permanent strength of our Union. We have to thank the Suffragists of Grimsby, both men and women, who gave the most generous financial help to our by-election campaign in their constituency, and we hope their splendid example will be followed by our supporters in Ipswich, and by all our members throughout the Federation. Indeed, all the money we can spare, and much more besides, could be spent with advantage in Ipswich during election week. It is most desirable that our propaganda work should be especially effective in view of the fact that one of the candidates is Mr. Masterman, whose record Suffragists, unfortunately, have good reason to remember; and we know from experience that no one can educate candidates so well or so quickly on any subject as a body of voters who are really in earnest.

Unfortunately, the neighbourhood of Ipswich has lately been the scene of some deplorable militant outrages which have aroused general indignation and resentment. Let us at least continue to show our unwavering faith that a steadfast love of truth and justice abides in the hearts of men. Let it be our mission to gain increased support for our cause by redoubled efforts, by able advocacy and education, by renewed acts of devotion. The Ipswich campaign affords us an opportunity for attempting all these things. All that is needed is sufficient money to ensure our success. We appeal with confidence to all enthusiastic Suffragists to send donations.

What Our Election Policy has Achieved.

Part II.

In a previous article (May 15th, page 121) we pointed out that the task before the N.U., when it adopted the E.F.F. policy, was two-fold:—

(1) To strengthen the Labour Party, so that it might *be able* to put effective pressure on the Government.
(2) To strengthen Suffrage feeling in the Labour Party, so that it might *be willing* to put effective pressure.

We showed last week how successfully the second part of this work is being carried out, and how much Women's Suffrage has gained in popularity during the past two years, especially among all sections of organised labour.

We now wish to consider how far we have succeeded with the first part of our task. How have we strengthened the Labour party to enable it to put effective pressure on the Government? In other words, have we been able to strengthen the Labour party *politically?*

There are three ways in which our action in by-elections can help to serve this end.

(1) By increasing the number of Labour Members in the House of Commons.
(2) By decreasing the numbers of the Liberal Party in the House, so that the Labour Party becomes *relatively* more important.
(3) By polling a sufficiently large vote to show that the Labour Party is, and will be, formidable in the constituency.

By the eight elections in which we have taken part, the number of Labour men in the House has not been increased, but four times over the Liberal Party has lost a seat and has seen its majority and its independence of Labour diminished in the House; and on three other occasions the Labour Party has polled heavily, and the Liberal majority has been very considerably decreased.

In only one case—that of Hanley—have none of the hoped-for results been achieved, and there the failure has been more apparent than real. For, although it is counted as a Liberal gain from Labour, it was never really a Labour seat. Although Mr. Edwards sat with the Labour Party in the House, he had always the full support of the Liberals in the constituency, and

the contest in 1912 was the first time that Labour had really tested its strength in the constituency.

Setting Hanley aside, we find that in the seven fights (Holmfirth, Crewe, Midlothian, Houghton-le-Spring, S. Lanark, N.W. Durham, Leith Burghs), the gain to the Labour Party has been 16,566 votes, and the loss to the Liberals 15,282—that is to say, on an average, over 2,000 votes have been transferred from the Liberal to the Labour candidate in each of these elections. For how many of the votes polled we are responsible it is, of course, impossible to say ; but at Houghton, a leading Labour man put it at "at least 1,000," and at Midlothian, *The Edinburgh Evening News* tried to belittle our efforts by saying that they "doubted whether the Suffragists would turn 500 votes, with all their oratory." The Midlothian seat was lost to the Government by thirty-two votes, S. Lanark by 251, and Leith by sixteen, so that in each of these cases, very much less than the 500 would have made us responsible for the result.

In measuring the gains of this policy, we must also take into account the fact that Women's Suffrage, made a plank in the platform of a political party, holds a very different place as an election issue from any it has ever taken before.

Of the effect of all this on the Liberal Party it is, of course, not possible to speak authoritatively, but there is a very significant move amongst certain Liberals to warn the party of the danger it is incurring. Mr. P. W. Wilson's article in the April number of *The Englishwoman* is an admirable example of this. He says :—

"In the constituencies, which determine all things, Liberalism and Conservatism are to-day threatened by Labour, and the central fact of the times which are ahead of us is the rapidly extending association of the workers with the political aims of women. . . . The restlessness of women, if it stood alone, might have been negligible, but when, as now, it is associated with the seething undercurrents of industrial discontent, when its satisfaction is the condition precedent to fundamental Liberal reform, it can only be answered with an evasion at the risk of a Liberal *debâcle* . . . and if the Ministerial organisers will permit a not unfriendly word, they will in future think less of the Suffragists who depend on physical force and are comparatively harmless to existing caucuses, and more of the Suffragists, not less determined, not less courageous, who, saying little that appears in the Press, are in every direction reinforcing Labour and influencing the balancing vote on which depends the fate of the Government."

We conclude, then, that even during the short time it has been in force, our Election Fighting Fund policy has produced even more than the effects anticipated at its inception. It applies precisely the kind of political pressure which no Government can long afford to despise. If, as we hope, our supporters are convinced by what has been said in this and the foregoing article of the value of our Election Fighting Policy, we hope they will make it possible for us to carry it out with all the vigour which ample funds can give.

SUFFRAGE AND LABOUR WEEK'S CAMPAIGN IN STOCKPORT.

During the last week a series of Labour and Suffrage meetings have been held in Stockport, the arrangements having been carried through by a committee of local labour and Suffrage sympathisers, which has worked splendidly. The meetings have been remarkably sympathetic. Hundreds of Friends of Women's Suffrage cards have been signed at our open-air meetings.

Mrs. Bruce Glasier, on Friday night, addressed a crowd of over 1,000 people on Armoury Square on the working woman's need for the vote, and roused them to a high pitch of enthusiasm. In the early part of the week Miss Bridson came over from Bolton with her car, while Miss Hoffman came later in the week with hers. The sight of these ladies driving their own cars was itself an argument for Woman's Suffrage, as one man was heard to say. One organiser of few inches, but much energy, has become affectionately known to the children in Stockport as "Little Tich."

Perhaps the most gratifying feature of the week's work has been the splendid work put in by the members of the different labour organisations in the town, whose assistance as speakers and stewards, and in helping to advertise the meetings, has been invaluable. Mr. Crossley, Mr. Bairstow, Miss Rawlinson, Mr. Travis, Miss Cartledge, Mr. Warren, and very many others have worked very hard and very successfully. On Wednesday Miss Taylor and Mr. Clement Burdock and Mr. Priestley addressed an indoor meeting. On Saturday afternoon Miss Margaret Robertson, Mrs. Müter Wilson, Mr. Fenner Brockway, Mr. Clement Stott, Mrs. A. Oldham, Mrs. Annot Robinson, and Miss Ellen Wilkinson addressed a most successful Demonstration in Mersey Square. On Sunday the week's work concluded with a demonstration in the Central Hall, presided over by Mr. Travis, of the Stockport Trades and Labour Council, and addressed by Councillor Margaret Ashton, Mr. Clement Stott, Mrs. Annot Robinson, and others.

The sale of The Common Cause and *The Labour Leader* has been good, and altogether the allied causes of Labour and Suffrage have been greatly strengthened by the work of the week.

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Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone Number—1960 Victoria.

Press Report.

The Liberal papers have been conspicuously silent this week on the support given by Mr. Balfour to Women's Suffrage in his speech on the Scottish Home Rule Bill, in which he pleaded for the enfranchisement of women, not only for the subordinate Parliaments, but also for the Imperial Parliament. It is hard to follow *The Daily Chronicle* in its comments on the future procedure of this question. Its leading article admits that the House of Commons is certainly in favour of Women's Suffrage, but it implies that the principle of Woman Suffrage is so vital that it was too large a question to be dealt with last Friday afternoon, as was also the problem of Federalism, which was involved in the debate ; but while the subject of Federalism must, of course, be reserved for future discussion in the Imperial Parliament, in the opinion of *The Daily Chronicle*, the Imperial Parliament may shelve its responsibility in regard to Women's Suffrage, and conveniently relegate it to a subordinate Parliament.

"A.P.N.," in *The Daily News*, passes without comment the objection, attributed to the Speaker, that Women's Suffrage would complicate the issues involved in a scheme of devolution, such as the Scottish Home Rule Bill proposes. He does not indicate how it will be possible to avoid the complication, either in any Scottish Home Rule Bill or in any future discussion on Federalism, considering that in framing a new Constitution for subordinate legislatures, the question of the franchise is bound to be involved. The Speaker reminded the House on Friday that the Bill which proposes to set up a Parliament in Scotland is a matter which does not concern Scotland alone. The same remark applies to women, who, as Mr. Snowden pointed out in his speech on the Women's Franchise Amendment to the Irish Home Rule Bill, are to be a "transferred service, placed in the same category as swine fever and foot-and-mouth disease." And it seems obvious that the terms under which they are to be transferred concern the Imperial Parliament generally. *The Nation*, commenting on the matter, says :—

"The action of the Scottish Members makes a creditable contrast to that of the Irish Party. After this decided expression of opinion, it ought to be impossible for the Government, when it comes itself to present its own Bill for Scotland, to lag behind the wishes of Scotsmen themselves. The Federal system, if it is set up, ought to include from the beginning the enfranchisement of women for all local legislatures, which will be charged with the supervision of most of the services that directly touch the interests of women."

The Westminster Gazette heartily welcomes the new clause, dealing with Women's Suffrage, and points out that the whole question has gained in actuality by its connection with the later stages of the Irish controversy.

The Manchester Guardian says :—

"We have never been able to understand on what grounds opponents of Women's Suffrage for the Imperial Parliament can resist its application in the case of any subordinate assembly. Mrs. Humphry Ward, almost the only woman of distinction who has taken an active part against the enfranchisement of her sex, recognises this, and in a letter to yesterday's *Times*, enrols herself as a member of a 'middle Suffrage party' on these lines. That is a perfectly logical, and indeed, it seems to us, the only tenable position for the Anti-suffragist who is not also a pure reactionary."

Considerable misunderstanding of the position of the National Union has been caused this week through the omission by many newspapers of substantial portions of the statement on "Women's Suffrage and Federal Devolution," issued by the officers on May 14th. The omitted portions generally had reference to that part of the statement which repeats the claim for the vote on Imperial matters, as well as in subordinate Parliaments, should they be established. *The Times* omitted the statement of the National Union altogether. It printed, on May 18th, Mrs. Fawcett's reply to Mrs. Humphry Ward's letter, in which she emphasises the fact that, since the National Union stands for votes for women on the same terms as they are, or may be, granted to men, she could in no way sanction the bargain which Mrs. Humphry Ward suggests, that "we should strike our flag, and proclaim ourselves satisfied by the prospective complete exclusion of the influence of women from the electorate of the Central Imperial Parliament."

E. M. Leaf.

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Report of Literature Department.

Pledge cards for the Active Service League have now been issued at 4d. per dozen. The cards serve both as a pledge of membership and also as a register of the different ways in which each member will serve, either as speaker, seller of THE COMMON CAUSE, literature distributor, &c.

The Literature Committee has often been asked to issue something specially suited to agricultural districts. To meet this need, a new simple leaflet, "Country People and Women's Suffrage," has been written. (B 118, price, 6d. per 100, 4s. 6d. per 1,000.)

Contributions to the General Fund.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1913 ...	1,791	4	6
Received May 5th to 11th :—			
Subscriptions.			
Mrs. Gillie		5	0
Mrs. Roger Clark	5	0	0
Miss M. S. Knight		1	0
Mrs. Arthur Gibson	2	2	0
Miss E. B. S. Sackville ...		3	0
Mrs. Paul		2	0
Mr. T. Arthur Price		10	0
Miss Maude Chapman		1	0
Miss B. E. Thomson		5	0
Mrs. C. Prince	1	0	0
Donations.			
Miss M. Spencer (Active Service League)		2	0
Miss C. M. Forster (Active Service League)		5	0
Mrs. Dixon Davies (Active Service League)		7	0
Mr. Richardson Evans ...	2	2	0
Woman's Theatre, profits on amounts guaranteed :—			
The Hon. Mrs. Franklin ...		11	6
Miss Fawcett		11	6
Madame St. Osyth Smith ...		11	6
Miss Glover		11	6
Miss E. M. Leaf, Press Dept.		11	6
Miss Stoehr		11	6
Mrs. Gilchrist Thompson ...	8	12	6
Lady Chance	1	3	0
Miss Moseley		11	6
Miss C. M. S. Burrows ...	1	3	0
The Hon. Mrs. Russell ...		11	6
Mrs. Corbett Fisher		11	6
Miss Grey		11	6
Grimsby W.S.S. (By-Election)	10	0	0
Collection, per Miss V. Harris (Grimsby By-Election) ...	6	17	4
Anonymous, per Miss V. Harris (Grimsby By-Election)	5	0	0
Anonymous, per Miss C. Comins	12	0	0
Miss Marion Radford (Educational Campaign)		5	0
Mrs. Tennant (Election Fund)		10	0
Miss Warmington (Ipswich By-Election)	2	10	0
Subscription to Information Bureau.			
Miss Eleanor Rathbone ...	1	1	0
Affiliation Fees.			
Ilkeston W.S.S.		5	0
Newport (I. of W.) W.S.S. ...		6	9
Paris W.S.S. (Additional) ...		1	0
Mid Bucks W.S.S. (Additional)		8	6
Alresford W.S.S.		9	6
Received through Mandate Fund	5,278	0	10
	£7,138	10	8

Two amounts—Mrs. Stanton Coit, £1 3s., and Miss Clark, £2 17s. 6d.—were acknowledged last week in the Election Fighting Fund. The total received from Woman's Theatre was £20 14s.

Women's Suffrage Mandate Fund.

Already acknowledged	5,509	1	10
Miss Edith Giles	1	0	0
	£5,510	1	10

Election Fighting Fund.

Already acknowledged, since November 1st, 1913	632	11	0
Mrs. A. B. Gillett (E. Bristol)	5	0	0
Mrs. H. T. Gillett	20	0	0
Miss M. Ashton	47	5	9
Miss Warmington (N.E. Derby By-Election)	2	10	0
Received through Mandate Fund	232	1	0
	£939	7	9

REPORTS OF MEETINGS.

Secretaries and Press Correspondents of Societies are once more urged to send all reports of meetings to the C.C. Correspondent of their Federation. Reports sent in separately to the C.C. Office give extra work to the staff, and are apt to be overlooked in the rush of going to press, particularly when they arrive late.

NEW "C. C." CORRESPONDENT FOR NORTH-WESTERN FEDERATION.

The C.C. Correspondent for the North-Western Federation is, for the present, Miss B. F. Millington (c/o the N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.), who is also Hon. Sec. of the Federation.

ORDERING THE "THE COMMON CAUSE."—ON SALE OR RETURN.

As there appears to be a misunderstanding on the part of some newsagents, the manager wishes officially to inform all readers that THE COMMON CAUSE is ON SALE OR RETURN to all the wholesale agents. Will any reader who is told that the paper is NOT freely on sale, ask the newsagent to refer to his Order Sheet, or to his wholesale agent.

ACTIVE SERVICE LEAGUE.

Will Federations and Societies please take note that all Leaguers must be members of the N.U.W.S.S. "Friends" are warmly welcomed whenever they are able to help us in our open-air campaigns, but are not eligible to be enlisted as Leaguers unless they are willing to become members. It is essential that the Active Service League should be an integral part of the Union, working on the same lines and under the same rules, and the only means to secure this, is the safeguard of membership.

Besides the "Pledge" card which is now ready, there will also shortly be issued a brooch badge, with the following inscription :—Active Service League, N.U.W.S.S. Pilgrimage, 1913—thus linking up the League as the outcome of the Pilgrimage. I feel sure we shall all be proud to wear it, whether we were actually Pilgrims or amongst the many thousands of women who had to be content to follow them in spirit, being unable to leave their homes or their daily toil. And what an inspiration they gave to the Pilgrims by their sympathy and encouragement. No one can ever guage. Fresh evidence reaches me daily of the enthusiasm and energy with which the Union is forming its sections and groups of leaguers and organising schemes for their employment. Hurry up, comrades! The summer has come with all its possibilities of open-air Suffrage work and will soon be over. There is no time to be lost. Those who can afford the small outlay, please buy your uniforms—it is so effective—and those who are not able to do this, will, I know, endeavour to supply themselves with at least a badge, and a tie in the colours. Then there are some who can take no active part—to them, I say, don't forget the Active Service League Fund—it will help others to do the work you cannot undertake yourselves.

KATHERINE M. HARLEY, League Leader, A.S.L.

LIST OF SOCIETIES.

In future, the List of Societies and Federations in the N.U.W.S.S. will be published on the last Friday of each month, instead of on the first. All notices of alterations in names of Secretaries, &c., should be sent direct to the office of the N.U.

"COMMON CAUSE" SELLERS.

If everyone who stands still and complains that she sees other Suffrage papers being sold but not THE COMMON CAUSE, if everyone of these, instead of seeing a mote in the eye of the N.U. members in general, looked on it as a beam in her own eye, and came out and sold for an hour once a week or once a fortnight, the whole trouble would be at an end, and we should see the colours and THE COMMON CAUSE all over London as they ought to be seen.

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A profession which offers a good opening to women and which has proved very attractive to those who have taken it up, is that of dispensing. The training is by no means long or expensive, and a qualified dispenser can obtain a salary of £130. Those who are anxious to attend lectures on this subject may be glad to know that they can obtain full particulars from the Secretary, "The Westminster Classes," Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster.

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I approve of the objects and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and desire to be enrolled as a member of the affiliated Society in my district, and to receive their organ *"The Common Cause."

I herewith enclose cheque / postal order for £ s. d., the amount of my annual subscription. Plus 6s. 6d., one year's subscription to "The Common Cause."*

*Name*_____
(Mrs., Miss, Esq., or other Title.)

*Address*_____
(in full.)

To the Secretary_____ Society for Women's Suffrage,

Or the Secretary, National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

* Please cross out if not required.

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News from the Societies and Federations.

London Society.—(*Continued.*)

MUSWELL HILL.—The third annual meeting was held at the Athenæum on April 22nd, when the speakers were Miss Maude Royden, Mr. H. T. Cawley, M.P., and the Rev. Aidan Hancock, while Mr. G. A. Tyler occupied the chair. The meeting was preceded by a reception, the hostess being the Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves. Miss Royden, at the close of an eloquent speech, moved the following resolution: "That this meeting deplores the persistent trifling of the Government with this great question, and calls upon them to introduce a measure for the enfranchisement of women at the earliest possible opportunity." Mr. Hancock seconded the resolution, which was carried with only one dissentient. During the evening two members joined and ten "Friends'" cards were enrolled.

WEST NORWOOD.—A very successful drawing-room meeting was given on April 28th by Mrs. and Miss Hubbard, at 41, Chestnut Road, W. Norwood, when Mrs. Rawlings was the speaker. Six new members joined and seven copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

PECKHAM.—An open-air meeting was held at Collyer Place on May 1st, when the speakers were Mrs. Campbell and Miss Hamilton.

RICHMOND.—The Richmond Society, the first to become an independent branch of the London Society, has celebrated its independence by forming a Citizen's Club for the discussion of local municipal affairs, and emphasising in this connection the need for Women's Suffrage. The first small inaugural meeting was held on April 8th. The second, at which the attendance showed an encouraging increase, was held on April 22nd. The very interesting speech of Miss Sutton (Town Councillor, Reading), on "New Opportunities for Married Women," received close attention. Two new members joined.

WIMBLEDON.—On May 6th a Drawing-room meeting was held at 9, Ridway Gardens, and was attended by over forty people. Lt.-Col. Seton Churchill took the chair, and Miss Hay Cooper addressed the meeting on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement." Three new members and four "Friends" were enrolled, and twelve copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

West Riding Federation.

The Annual Meeting of the Federation was held, by the kind invitation of Miss Siddon, the President, at Powolny's Rooms, Leeds, on April 25th, and proved a most successful function. About 125 delegates from different Societies in the Federation were present, and we had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Courtney, Hon. Secretary, N.U., who made a very able speech on the policy of the National Union, explaining in detail the causes which had led to our adopting it. Mr. Brown moved the adoption of the annual report, which showed great progress in the Federation. The financial statement was read by Miss Beaumont, who appealed for subscribers to the Federation funds. The re-election of the Hon. Officers was moved by Dr. Mary Phillips. We are very much indebted to our generous President for giving the members of our Societies this opportunity of meeting each other in such a delightful way. During the afternoon, Mrs. Lockwood presented to the Federation a beautiful banner, designed and worked by herself.

During the past month work has been done in Halifax by Miss Brandebourg, where a society has been formed, with the Vicar of Halifax as President, and Mrs. Quilter as Hon. Secretary. The Society held its inaugural meeting on May 4th, and a public meeting on the 15th. In Horsforth Miss Loughman has been working, and we hope shortly to record the foundation of a society.

E. F. F.—Miss Hilston has begun work in West Bradford, Mr. Jowett's constituency, with Miss Howarth as her assistant. Miss Robertson will open our campaign there on May 27th. In Rotherham Mrs. Oldham has begun a summer campaign of open-air meetings.

BRADFORD.—May 1st.—Our Horton Branch had a very successful meeting, at which Mrs. Hibbert took the chair, in the Lecture Room of the Wesley Place Schools. Mrs. Rackham gave an address on the general aspect of the Suffrage movement and women's need of the vote, with the result that, though many members of the Society were present, we enrolled thirteen "Friends" and eight new members. The collection amounted to £1 7s. Badges, literature, and seventeen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

On May 4th the office was moved to our present address, 7, Belle Vue, Manningham. The Annual Meeting will be held here on Monday, May 25th. Speaker, Mrs. Renton.

On May 11th, an "At Home" was held at the office, for members to hear the report of the delegates to the last Council Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Grattan Newboult. Four dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold outside the meetings of the Purity Campaign at the end of April, and at a meeting connected with the Labour Demonstration on May 3rd.

TRADE UNION MEETINGS.

April 18th.—Yorkshire Association of Engineers and Firemen.—Fourteen "Friends'" cards signed. Resolution to be submitted to members at the next meeting. Speaker, Miss Ashby.

April 27th.—Amalgamated Society of House and Ship Painters and Decorators.—Resolution passed unanimously. Twenty-eight "Friends" enrolled. Twelve copies of THE COMMON CAUSE sold. Speaker, Miss Ashby.

May 1st.—Amalgamated Society of Engineers, 4th Branch.—Resolution passed. Speaker, Miss Pattinson.

May 3rd.—National Union of Railwaymen, Manningham Branch.—Resolution passed. Sixteen "Friends" enrolled. Speaker, Miss Pattinson.

DONCASTER.—A public meeting, which was also the first Annual Meeting of the Doncaster Society, was held at the Glyn Temperance Hotel on May 13th. Miss Clark took the chair, and Miss I. O. Ford gave a most kindly, encouraging, and truly inspiring address. The attendance was about one hundred and fifty. Ten new members joined, bringing the membership up to sixty-nine. Thirty-three copies of THE COMMON CAUSE, besides other literature, were sold. The collection amounted to £1 7s.

On May 14th, an open-air meeting was held at Tickhill, Mrs. Hirst and Miss Clark speaking from the steps of the Village Cross to an attentive and ever-increasing gathering. Twelve "Friends'" cards were signed. A second meeting will be held at the same place on June 11th.

ILKLEY.—The members of the Ilkley Society held their first Annual Meeting in the Congregational Lecture Hall on Tuesday, April 21st, at 7.30 p.m. The report and balance-sheet were read, and testified to the flourishing condition of the Society. A reception was subsequently held, the guests being received by Mrs. Lomax and Mrs. Foster, in the absence, owing to family bereavement, of the President, Mrs. Rabagliati. A short address on the rapid growth and international character of the woman's movement was given by Mrs. Renton, and was followed by a musical programme arranged by Mrs. Lavington Glyde. A clever performance of "A Chat with Mrs. Chicky," by Miss Rabagliati and Mr. Christopher Scott, brought the evening to a close

LEEDS.—The weekly "At Homes" on Wednesdays at the offices, 35, Park Square, were resumed after the holidays on April 22nd, when members met for tea and an "Informal Talk" on matters concerning the conditions of factory life for women and girls.

On Friday, May 1st, Miss I. O. Ford met Mrs. Gladstone Solomon in a debate arranged by the University Working Men's Club, York Road. In the discussion which followed, all the speeches but one were warmly in support of the Suffrage, and one speaker had not yet made up her mind either way. It must have been a discomforting evening for the Anti-suffragists, even though no vote was taken.

On Sunday, May 3rd, there was a big Labour demonstration on Holbeck Moor. Miss I. O. Ford spoke from one of the platforms. Leave has been given by the organisers of the meeting for us to sell our paper. Seven dozen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and a great number of badges.

On Wednesday, May 6th, the weekly "At Home" was well attended. Miss Whiting (Hon. Probation Officer in the Leeds Children's Courts) gave an address of great interest on the children among whom she works. She showed the crying need for Women Magistrates, who might be able to bring something of the mother-touch into the treatment of the boy or girl offender. Miss Mercier, Principal of the Women's side of the Leeds Training College, took the chair, and spoke of the Women's Movement as offering a solution to most of our gravest social problems, and as pointing the way to a truer civilisation in the future.

On Wednesday, May 13th, Mr. G. K. Hibbert, Warden of the Swarthmore Settlement, Leeds (Society of Friends), gave an address on "The Deeper Significance of the Women's Movement." Miss Cooke (Lecturer in History in Leeds University) took the chair. Mr. Hibbert showed that the Suffrage movement is at bottom a religious crusade to remove the shackles which bind the individuality and freedom of expression of half the human race. In the Society of Friends, the service of women used to its full has brought incalculable gain; where it is not, the waste must be lamentable. Mr. Hibbert pointed out that the State is making ever-increasing demands upon the service of women, and that it cannot rightly debar them from citizenship any longer. The attendance at this "At Home" was the largest we have had, and it was difficult to find room for all who came.

SHEFFIELD.—On Thursday, April 30th, we had the pleasure of welcoming for the first time Mrs. Rackham, who was visiting the Federation, and Mrs. Fisher, wife of the Vice-Chancellor of Sheffield University, who presided at an afternoon reception, which was well attended. Mrs. Rackham gave an interesting and impressive address, which was fully and appreciatively reported in both the local newspapers. She had to leave early to catch a train for Dewsbury, but the rest of the gathering remained for tea and talk, this reception being specially intended to give new members an opportunity of meeting and becoming acquainted with other Suffragists. Tea was followed by the Annual Meeting. The annual report was presented by the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Gill, showing a good year's work and a satisfactory financial position. Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher was elected President; the Secretary, Treasurer, Press Secretary, and C.C. Secretary were re-elected. Four new members were elected to the Committee after the business meeting. Miss H. M. Clark, of Doncaster, gave a stirring Suffrage address for the special benefit of members who had been unable to attend the afternoon reception.

SHIPLEY.—A Suffrage Jumble Sale was held at the Co-operative Hall, Shipley, on April 24th, the proceeds amounting to £6 2s. 7d.

West of England Federation.

BRISTOL.—April 17th.—Meeting of Bishopston Branch, by kind invitation of Mrs. Chate, at 12, Balmoral Road—Speaker, Miss Tanner.

April 23rd.—Meeting of Westbury Branch, by kind invitation of the Misses Tanner at Down's Park West. Election of officers for newly formed branch—President, Miss Pease; Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Nierenstein.

April 28th.—"At Home" and working party at the office, 40, Park Street.

May 5th.—"At Home" at office—Mrs. Hicks on "The Disabilities of Wives and Mothers."

May 7th.—Meeting at office to arrange for the working of the Lightning Campaign—Hon. Secretary, Miss Button.

May 8th.—Lecture in aid of the funds at St. Paul's Hall by Professor Skemp, M.A., Ph.D., on "Dante

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS and mention THE COMMON CAUSE when ordering goods.

Gabriel Rossetti." This is the first of a series of three which Professor Skemp is kindly giving for us. The room was full, and the lecture most interesting.

May 13th.—Meeting of Totterdown Branch at Y.M.C.A. Building. Miss Baretti spoke on "Women's Suffrage in Practice."

May 14th.—Meeting of Westbury Branch, by kind invitation of Mrs. Milant, at 50, Downs Park West.

May 15th.—Lecture by Professor Skemp on "William Morris."

CAMPDEN (GLOS.).—A very successful meeting was held here on Thursday, May 14th. Miss G. Hadow spoke on "Social Responsibility," and a branch of the N.U.W.S.S. was formed, with a membership of twenty-six, and thirty "Friends." Eight copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold.

CHELTENHAM.—A deputation of seven of the Committee waited on Mr. Rhys Williams, the Liberal candidate, on April 17th. The views of the N.U. were put fully before him, Mrs. Swiney (President) being chief speaker. In reply, Mr. Williams declared that at the present time he would have to answer all three N.U. questions in the negative, but would carefully consider the subject between now and the election. He looked upon Women's Suffrage as so important as to be a revolution, for it would lead to Adult Suffrage. He thought the law-abiding Suffragists ought to stop militancy. It was made clear to him that this was impossible, and it was pointed out that if the worse acts of Irish Nationalists did not alienate Liberals from Home Rule, it was illogical to refuse justice to all women because of the acts of a few.

CIRENCESTER.—The Annual Meeting was held on April 23rd. A most successful "White Elephant" sale brought in £15, and double the number of elephants could easily have been sold—a crate of odd crockery, bought cheap from the makers, being particularly appreciated. An excellent performance of "Mrs. Chicky" was given by Miss Kelly, and Dr. Alice Burn, of Cheltenham, after which Mrs. Haverfield delivered a very interesting and convincing speech. A good deal of literature was sold and distributed, and a number of "Friends'" cards were signed. The officers and Committee were re-elected for the ensuing year.

CREWKERNE.—On April 16th, by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Blake, a "Give and Take" tea was held at the Old House. Miss Slack gave a most inspiring address on "The Spiritual Force of Women's Work." A short and interesting discussion followed, and then the sale of gifts, brought by the guests, took place. After the sale tea was kindly dispensed by Mrs. Blake, and the beautiful grounds of Old House were thrown open.

KEYNSHAM.—A meeting was held at Temple Street Schools on April 23rd. Mr. John Allan took the chair, and Miss Clough spoke. Several questions were asked, and the meeting terminated with a short speech from Mr. W. Pearce, and the usual votes of thanks, moved and seconded by Mr. H. S. Cox and Mr. Willoughby. Three new members joined, badges were sold, and literature was distributed.

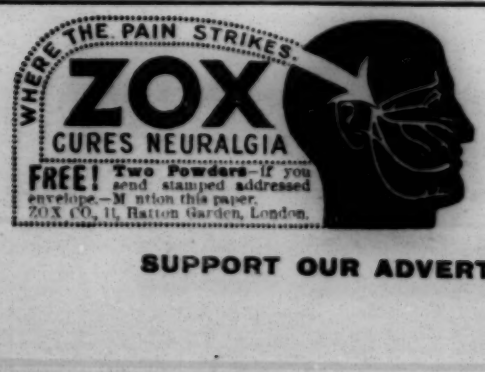
TAUNTON.—On May 2nd, the second monthly meeting was held at 11, The Crescent, Miss Thurstan in the chair. The agenda for the Annual Meeting was arranged, and it was decided to postpone the Jumble Sale till May 23rd.—On May 6th, the Annual Meeting was held at Flook House. Miss Thurstan took the chair during the business half of the meeting, and Miss E. Platt (Vice-President) for the second half, when a member of the London Society gave an interesting address on the difference between women's work in the past and present. The officers gave accounts of the work in their various departments during the year, and Miss Thurstan outlined the plan of the West of England Whitsuntide camp.

WEST DORSET.—Two meetings were held in Bridport on March 27th, Miss Abadam being principal speaker on both occasions. The afternoon meeting was for women only, and Miss Abadam made a most eloquent speech on the moral question in relation to Women's Suffrage. The audience was small, but deeply interested; two members were enrolled and two "Friends'" cards signed. In the evening a public meeting was held, with the Mayor in the chair. Miss Thurstan gave a Lantern Lecture on "Some Aspects of Women's Work in the Past." The subject was the ancient art of nursing and the lantern slides were of great interest, historically and artistically. Miss Abadam then spoke, dealing chiefly with the social superstitions still extant in connection with the capabilities of women.

ORGANISERS' REPORT (MISS THURSTAN AND MISS BALLANTINE).

AMESBURY.—A well-attended afternoon meeting was held in the Reading Room on April 30th. The Vicar (the Rev. F. Windley) presided, and Miss Cooke spoke on "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement." In the evening of the same day a good open-air meeting was held on the Green. Miss Ballantine took the chair, and Miss Cooke again spoke. Many thanks are due to Miss Smith for kindly providing tea, for working up the meetings, and for consenting to act as a Branch Secretary. There are now several members and a good many "Friends" here.

PORTON.—A small meeting took place in the Reading Room, May 1st. Mrs. Farrer took the chair, and Miss Cooke spoke.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WYLYE.—Small open-air meeting on May 2nd—Miss Ballantine and Miss Cooke.

WESTHAM (WEYMOUTH).—Open-air meeting—Mr. Bracher kindly took the chair, and Miss Cooke spoke. A number of children, unfortunately, prevented the large audience from hearing all Miss Cooke's most interesting speech.

WEYMOUTH.—On May 5th, a well-attended meeting was held at the Hotel Burdon—Miss Thurstan presided, and Miss Cooke and Miss Tanner spoke. A favourable resolution was carried, a good collection taken, and several "Friends'" cards were signed.

MERE (WILTS).—An excellent meeting was held in the Queen Victoria Hall on May 6th. The Vicar (the Rev. F. E. Trotman) presided. He was supported by the Rev. E. Roe and Mrs. F. B. Rutter. Miss Cooke spoke on the "Religious Aspect of the Woman's Movement," and was listened to with deep attention by the large audience. A good collection was taken, and twenty-two "Friends" and a few members joined.

WELLS.—A well-attended meeting was held on May 11th. Miss Irene Cox spoke on "The Sweated Labour of Women." A good many men were present, who asked several questions at the close of the address.

LANGPORT.—On May 15th a Lantern Lecture was given by Miss Thurstan on "Some Aspects of Women's Work in the Past."

In addition to the above meetings, Miss Thurstan and Miss Ballantine have been making preparations for the forthcoming camp—choosing the site, seeing to the water supply, hiring tents and furniture, and interesting the neighbourhood generally in this first-fruits of the Active Service League

Eastern Counties Federation.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD.—April 22nd.—A meeting for teachers was held. Mrs. Heitland gave an address which was received with interest. The attendance was small, but a resolution was carried.

BRENTWOOD.—April 2nd.—This Society held its Annual Meeting at the Somerset Hall. The chair was taken by H. Edgar Wild, Esq. Miss Thompson gave an interesting address. Eleven new members joined; six Friends. Fifteen copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold, and the education campaign announced.

CAMBRIDGE.—On April 24th, a meeting was held at the Women's Co-operative Guild. Miss Creak gave an address on "Joseph Mazzini and the Woman's Movement."

DUNMOW.—On May 4th, a public meeting was held. The chair was taken by the Vicar, the Rev. John Evans. Mrs. Bethune-Baker and Mr. Mirrlees spoke. The audience was small, but interested. A resolution was carried nem. con. Twelve copies of THE COMMON CAUSE were sold. Collection, 8s. 5d

EAST ESSEX (SOUTH).—On April 27th, a Jumble Sale was held, which realised £2 12s. 6d. after paying expenses.—On May 11th, an interesting meeting was held at Stafford Hall. The chair was taken by Mr. Lester, and the speakers were Mrs. Stanbury and Mr. Mirrlees. Mrs. Stanbury gave a stirring address on the "Subjection of Women," followed by an interesting speech from Mr. Mirrlees, who dwelt on man's need for woman's co-operation.

FELIXSTOWE, WALTON, AND DISTRICT.—On April 21st, a Jumble Sale was held, which realised £4 6s. 8d.—On April 23rd, Miss Place addressed a meeting of women of the Co-operative Guild. Her subject was "Women's Work." The audience was very good, keen, and attentive. Discussion followed the speech, and leaflets were distributed. This Society has gone through a stormy time, to emerge stronger and more closely knit. Following the burning of the Bath Hotel by the militants, a very truculent attitude was adopted by certain people of the town. This Society and the W.S.P.U. each had stalls in a local Exhibition, which was opened on May 6th. In the evening of that day an organised band of men completely wrecked the stall belonging to the W.S.P.U.; but the N.U. stall was not touched. The violence used towards those defenceless women has raised a storm of feeling. Our members have been constantly required to expound our beliefs and our methods. The "Antis" had a stall near ours, which gave our workers splendid opportunities. The financial results have been good. New members and sympathisers have been gained, and much literature distributed.

HOLT.—On April 30th a very successful entertainment was given in the Concert Hall. After a short concert Miss Waring gave an address which was keenly appreciated. The amusing play, "How the Vote was Won," was well acted and thoroughly enjoyed. The entertainment was got up for "Friends," but the hall was full, and over £5 was taken.

S. WOODFORD.—On May 14th, a successful meeting was arranged by this new Society. Mrs. Vulliamy gave a very interesting address, and several new members were enrolled.

THE NORFOLK County Committee has met, and has appointed Miss Isabel Cook as its Secretary.

Forthcoming Meetings.

Correspondents are urgently requested to write distinctly; and to send in NOT LATER THAN THE MONDAY before the announcement is to be inserted. Notices must be addressed to the Sub-Editor.

London.

MAY 22

Deptford—Corner of Pepys Road and New Cross Gate—Speakers, Mrs. Rogers, Miss E. Walshe 7.45

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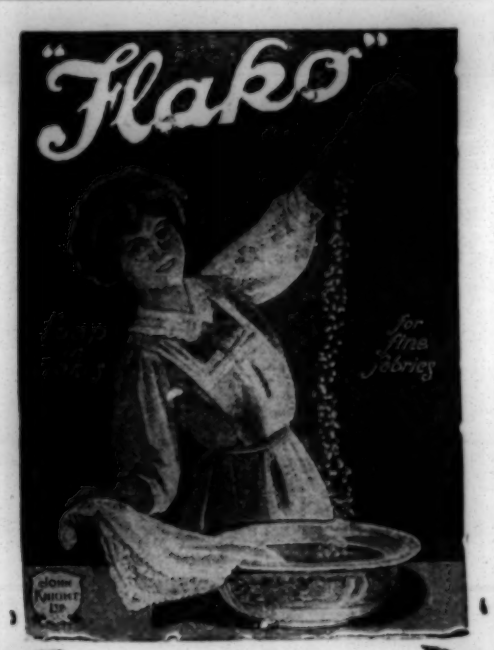

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Ealing—Main Uxbridge Road—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Richardson 8.0

East Dulwich—Corner of Nigel Road and Rye Lane—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mr. David Watson, Miss Fielden 8.0

Southwark—Corner of Tenison Street and York Road, Waterloo—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Savory, Miss W. Elkin 8.0

MAY 23.

Finchley—Active Service Open-air Meeting 3.30

MAY 24.

Hyde Park—Near Reformers' Tree—Speakers, Miss Fielden and Miss Meikle 3.0

MAY 25.

Camberwell—46, The Gardens, Peckham Rye—Social Evening—Hostess, Mrs. Harvey—Speaker, Miss Royds 7.30

Greenwich—Corner of Christ Church Street and Woolwich Road — Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss H. D. Cockle, Miss Goddard 7.45

Holborn—Corner of High Street, Bloomsbury, and Charing Cross Road—Speakers, Miss E. Walshe, Miss Agnes Dodd 8.0

MAY 26

Balham—62, Balham Park Road—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Miss Powell—Speakers, Mrs. Stanbury, Mr. H. Rolleston Stables—Chair, the Rev. W. J. Beechey 2.15

Brixton—73, Brixton Hill—Girls' Meeting—Hostess, Miss Hewitt—Speaker, Miss Goddard 8.45

Deptford—Victualling Yard, Grove Street—Dinner-hour Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Richardson 12.30

South Paddington—Lecture Hall (Ethical Church), Queen's Road, Bayswater—Debate—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, Miss Gladys Pott 8.30

Southwark—St. George's Circus and Borough Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss P. Fawcett, Miss Fielden 8.0

MAY 27.

Battersea—Mossbury Road, Clapham Junction—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Watson—Chair, Miss Hoblyn 8.0

Marylebone—Nutford Place—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss W. Elkin, Mr. H. Rolleston Stables 8.0

Richmond—Castle Assembly Rooms—Meeting of Citizens' Club—Mrs. E. Nott Bower, P.L.G., on "Permissive Legislation, or What you may do and What you must do on Town and County Councils" 8.0

West St. Pancras—Corner of Park Street and Arlington Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Stoehr, Miss Fielden 8.0

MAY 28.

Hampton—3, Park Road, Hampton Hill—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostesses, the Misses Cooke and Mrs. Cameron—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke—Chair, the Rev. Vibart Jackson 3.0

Streatham—Corner of Greyhound Lane and Streatham High Road — Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Fawcett, Miss Hamilton, Miss Fyffe 8.0

West Islington—Corner of Cattle Market and North Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. H. C. Campbell, and others—Chair, Mr. F. W. Flear 8.0

MAY 29.

Balham—Corner of Ormeley Road—Open-air Meeting 8.15

Clapham—Corner of Long Street, near "The Plough" and Clapham High Street—Speakers, Mrs. Rogers, Miss Fyffe, Miss Stoehr, Mr. Watson 8.0

Deptford—Corner of Brockley Road and Lewisham High Road — Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss H. D. Cockle, Mr. A. Church 7.45

The Provinces.

MAY 22.

Birmingham—20, Easy Row—Active Service League Meeting 5.0

Bristol—St. Paul's Lecture Hall—Professor Skemps on "Algernon Charles Swinburne" 8.0

Clevedon—Public Hall—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters—Chair, Mr. J. A. H. Daniell 8.0

Faversham—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cook

Welwyn—St. Mary's Hall—Mrs. Wathers and Miss Creak on "Women's Suffrage as it Concerns Working Women"—Chair, Miss A. Villiers 2.30

York—Walmgate Bar — Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Meyer 7.0

MAY 23.

Burnhopefield—Free Church Schools—Speaker, Miss A. Low—Chair, Miss Ainsley 6.30

Leeds—Victoria Square—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mr. A. J. Thatcher, of Sheffield 7.0

Norwich—Drawing-room Meeting — Hostess, Miss M. Hill—Speaker, Dr. Mary Bell 4.0

Sevenoaks—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke

Taunton—Flook House—Rummange Sale 4.0

Wokingham—Bear Wood. "At Home"—Hostess, Mrs. John Walter—Speakers, Mr. Baillie Weaver, Miss V. Eustace 3.30

MAY 24.

Northfleet—I.L.P.—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke

MAY 25.

Birkenhead—Holyoake Hall—Speaker, Miss Eskrigge—Chair, Mrs. Aitken 2.30

Birmingham—Saltley Women's Co-operative Guild—Speaker, Miss Kirby 3.0

Bradford—7, Belle Vue—Annual Meeting—Nomination of officers for ensuing year—Speaker, Mrs. Renton 7.30

Canterbury—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss G. Cooke

Croydon—34a, The Arcade, High Street—Geographical Tea (Tickets, 6d. each) 3.30

Durham—St. Hilda's College—Speaker, Miss A. Low 9.0

Manchester—Tib Street Corner — Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Hiller, Miss Emily Cox, M.A., Mr. Beanland, Mr. Clement Stott 7.30

Corner of York Street and Chester Road, Hulme—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Chew 7.30

South Salford Club, Oldfield Hall, Salford—Speaker, Mr. Richard Robinson 8.0

Newton Abbott—Town Hall—Speakers, Mrs. Tweedale, Mrs. Wyndham Knight-Bruce, the Rev. E. J. Barton, M.A.—Chair, Mr A. J. Muvim, J.P. 8.0

St. Ives—Women's Liberal Association—Debate—Speakers, Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Gladstone Solomon. 3.0

Wallasey and Wirral—Marine Park—Open-air Meeting—Speaker, Miss C. Leadley Brown 7.30

MAY 26.

Birmingham—Acock's Green—W.L.A.—Speaker, Mrs. Julian Osler 3.0

Bristol—40, Park Street—"At Home" 3.0

Newcastle—Lovaine Hall—Speaker, Miss A. Low—Chair, Mr. A. W. Dakers 7.30

Newquay—Victoria Hall—Speaker, Mr. Walker King—Chair, the Rev. W. Huntley Neales

Redditch—Church Green West — Members' Meeting at Mr. H. A. Pearson's—Mrs Hugh Dixon on "Anti-suffrage Arguments" 8.0

Solihull—sutton Lodge—Hostess, Mrs. Herbert Wright — Annual Meeting for Members—Speaker, the Rev. G. D. Rosenthal—Chair, Dr. Kirby—White Elephant Sale after Meeting for benefit of funds of the Society 3.30

Tonbridge—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke

Wolverhampton—Annual Meeting — Speakers, Miss Pearson, Mr. Osler—Chair, Mr. Geoffrey le M. Maunder, J.P. 8.0

MAY 27.

Bristol—7, Cambridge Park — Drawing-room Meetings—Hostess, Mrs. Clough—Speaker, Miss Adamson 3.30—7.30

Folkestone—Town Hall—Public Meeting of the N.U.W.S.S. and C.U.W.F.A.—Speakers, the Lady Betty Balfour, Miss Hay Cooper—Chair, the Lady Jane Taylor 3.0

Harlow — The Green — Garden Meeting—Hostess, Miss Young—Mrs. Arthur Hutchinson on "Women and Citizenship"—Chair, Mr. N. P. Wood 2.45

Leeds—35, Park Square—Mrs. Renton on "The Active Service League and W. Riding Pilgrimage" 4.0

Manchester—Memorial Hall, Albert Square—Concert—Artistes, Miss Marie Brema, Miss Edith Robinson, Mr. Carl Fuchs, Mr. Edward Isaacs 7.30

Scarborough — Matheson Boarding House—Stock Exchange Sale—Address on "The Lightning Campaign." 7.30

Sittingbourne—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke

Stourbridge—Mrs. Ring on "Sweated Industries"—Chair, The Rev. H. A. Hill 8.0

Walker—Speaker, Miss A. Low 7.30

Sunderland — Roker Open-air Meeting — Speakers, Miss Gordon, M.A., Councillor R. J. Wilson 7.0

MAY 28.

Ascot—Royal Hotel—Members' Annual Meeting—Speaker, Miss Sylvia Clark—Chair, Miss V. Eustace 8.0

Birmingham — Ward End Adult School — Speaker, Mrs. Ring 8.0

Bristol—Southfield Road—Meeting of the Westbury Branch 3.0

Camberley — Central Hall — Surgeon-General Watt, C.B., on "Florence Nightingale—The Greatest Woman Citizen: The Story of Her Life, with Personal Reminiscences 8.30

Manchester—Victoria Park Gates, opposite Whitworth Park—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Norbury, Mr. Crane, the Rev. Leigh Orton 7.30

Near Didsbury Post Office—Open-air and Club Meeting—Speakers, Mr. J. Cook, and others 7.30

Levenshulme—Co-operative Assembly Rooms, Stockport Road—Speaker, the Rev. W. Whitaker 8.0

Redcar—Institute Hall—Mrs. Rackham on "The State and the Child" 4.0

Wallsend—Drawing-room Meeting—Hostess, Mrs. Forest—Speaker, Miss A. Low 3.30

Worthing—1, Warwick Street—Mrs. Harley on "The Active Service League"—Cake and Candy Sale 3.0

MAY 29.

Darlington — Thornbech Collegiate School — Hostesses, The Misses Reid and Taylor — Speaker, Miss Alice Low 3.0

Scotland.

MAY 22.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Speaker, Miss Margaret Robertson, B.A 4.30

Glasgow—Bearsden Public Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden 8.0

Midlothian—Meeting under auspices of the Active Service League Evening.

MAY 23.

Aberdeen—Mealmarket Street Hall—Jumble Sale in aid of the funds of the Society 2.30

Bonnyrigg—(Active Service League)—Speaker, Miss Lisa M. Gordon—Chair, Mr. Cochrane 3.0

Hamilton—Town Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden 8.0

MAY 25.

Leith—Board Room, Bangor Road—Social Meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Shaw M'Laren—Chair, Miss Pressley Smith—Sketch, "The Brown Paper Parcel," Miss Radford 7.30

Peebles—Parish Church Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Philip Snowden—Chair, Mr. R. E. Miller

Selkirk—Victoria Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Snowden 8.0

MAY 27.

Newtongrange—I.L.P. Meeting—Speaker, Miss L. M. Gordon 7.15

Kelso—Town Hall—Speaker, Mrs. Philip Snowden—Chair, The Provost 8.0

MAY 29.

Dumfries — Greyfriar's Hall — Speaker, Mrs. Snowden—Chair, Provost Turner 8.0

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home" 4.30

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Coming Events.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.—Tuesday, May 26th, at 3 p.m. New Constitutional Hall, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge. "Democratic Vistas." Mr. D. N. Dunlop (Editor of *The Path*), The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Mrs. Cecil Chapman.

SUFFRAGE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Miss Muriel Matters will be at 19, Southend, Kensington-sq., W., after May 25th. Miss Matters will be in Ireland during August and September, and can take a few engagements there.

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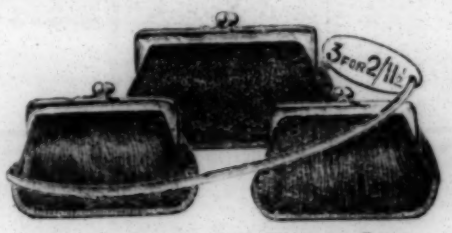

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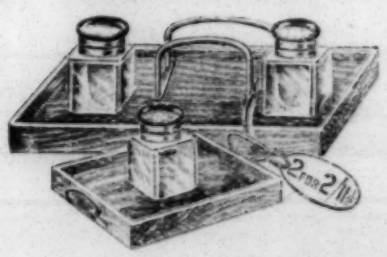

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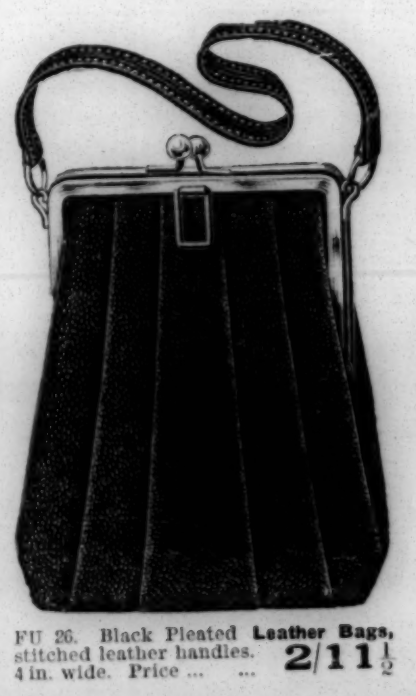

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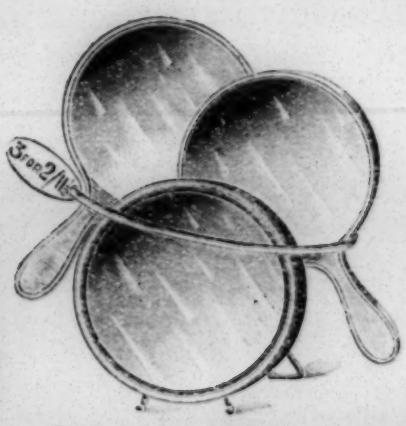

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